

Satan in Satin:

Overwhelming Proof that the Apparitions of the Virgin Mary are Demonic Deceptions

by Jeremy James



At the outset I should say that this is a difficult topic to write about. Even Catholics who are deeply sceptical about the validity of these phenomena are unlikely to be comfortable with a categorical assertion that all Marian apparitions are demonic. Some may accuse the author of bias or even religious intolerance. However, I am more than satisfied that anyone who takes the time to consider impartially the information set out in this paper will undergo a change of attitude. The facts will speak for themselves.

This critique is directed, not just at Catholics who are sincerely anxious to establish whether or not any of these apparitions are genuine, but also at born-again Christians who are being lured into the trap of Ecumenism, best exemplified by the subversive accord, *Evangelicals and Catholics Together* (1994).

True Biblical Christianity is in crisis. Numerous false teachings, heresies and doctrinal errors have taken a firm hold on the evangelical church over the past century or so. The pace of decay has accelerated in recent years and the Enemy is making astonishing progress. Today, the deception is so great and so cleverly constructed that the true situation is probably a good deal worse than we think.

The Bible, and in particular the Book of Revelation, has already explained the reason for this. Satan is building his own religious system, a system so close to true Christianity that the vast majority of professing Christians will be unable to tell the difference. What is more, this version of Christianity will incorporate numerous doctrinal and practical elements that will make it acceptable to followers of all religions. Once it is fully operational it will constitute the One World global religion that the Enemy will use to usher in his own messiah, a flesh and blood man with supernatural abilities known as the Antichrist.

The Coming One-World Religion

Unless Catholics recognize that a One-World religion is in formation, and that it is central to the rise of the Antichrist, they will not understand the role of the Marian apparitions. These visions, which purport to be of Mary, the earthly mother of Jesus, are actually apparitions by Satan himself in an extremely attractive and beguiling form. Through them he is authenticating the Papacy as the pre-eminent religious authority in the world today. The Popes in turn are authenticating the apparitions and publishing Encyclicals that are stealthily elevating the Virgin to the status of a goddess.

All religions, even Islam, will acknowledge the sanctified perfection of Mary. She is already recognized by Islam as the most perfect woman who ever lived. Her standing among Muslims would increase even more if she was seen to embrace them through her apparitions and associated messages. There is evidence that this is already happening.

By appearing as the Queen of Heaven and the Goddess of Peace to followers of different religions, she will draw Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists into the broad Catholic fold. Even liberal Protestants, who already accord a special status to Mary, will be strongly disposed to accept the validity of her apparitions by their seemingly supernatural aspects, the ecumenism and inclusiveness of her message, and her oft-repeated promise to bring world peace.

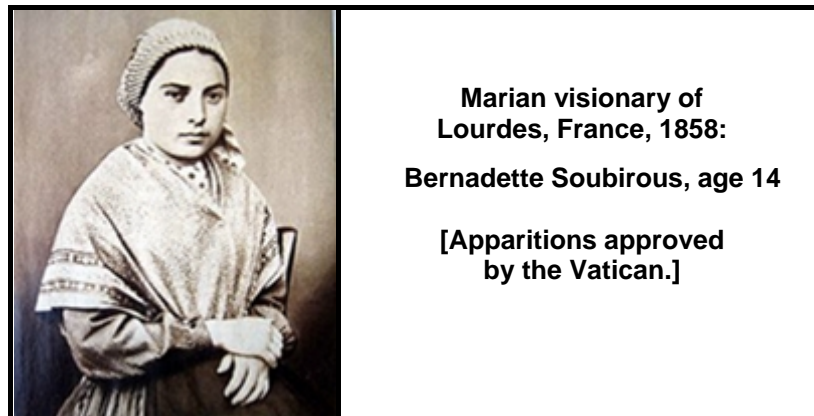


**The two Marian visionaries of
La Salette, France 1846:**

**Maximin Giraud, age 11
Mélanie Calvat, age 15**

**[Apparition approved
by the Vatican.]**

The Marian apparitions are the key to the coming One-World religion. They are preparing the way for the New Age Messiah who will pose as Christ and demonstrate miraculous abilities. A great many of the apparitions to date have emphasized the role of the Virgin in bringing peace to a troubled world and uniting people of all nations. If a crisis of sufficient magnitude were to develop – such as a Third World War – she could, through her apparitions, open the door to the worldwide acceptance of her ‘Son’. She could even claim that she is sending him to restore world peace and usher in a New Age of tranquility, prosperity and cosmic harmony.



My childhood ‘Marian’ apparition

Before presenting proof that the Marian apparitions are part of the great End Time deception foretold in the Bible, I would like to offer some additional evidence of my sincerity and of my desire to help Catholics find the true gospel of Christ.

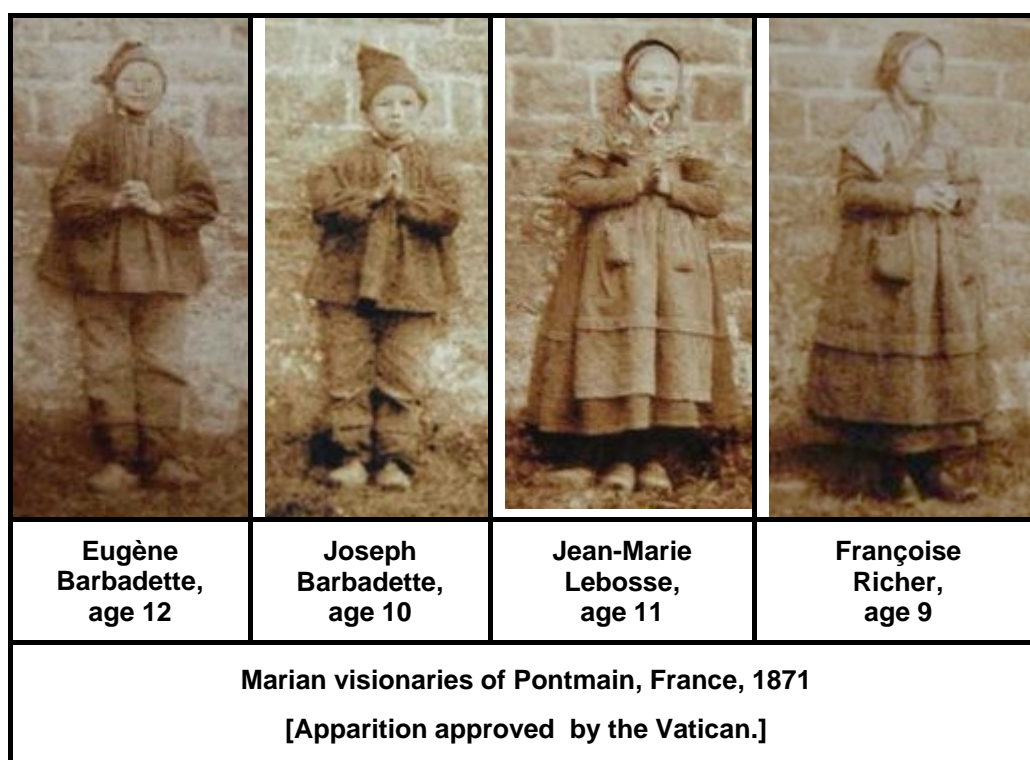
I was born into a traditional Irish Catholic family in 1955 and followed the teachings of Rome faithfully to age 19. However, during the four years from age 15 to 19 I suffered terribly from the doctrinal poison and spiritual darkness that lies at the heart of Roman Catholicism. This drove me into the New Age Movement where I studied and taught for the next 33 years. Thankfully, through God’s unfathomable mercy, I was saved in 2008 – in very dramatic circumstances (This story is told elsewhere).

When I was aged five, we moved to a large house that had served for many years as the presbytery of the local Roman Catholic curates. For some reason the priests had relocated to a house that was no closer to the church and offered no additional amenities. So why did they leave?

One Thursday afternoon, while I was watching television with my brother and sister, I was lifted suddenly into another world. The most beautiful woman that one could ever imagine was standing before me. Her warmth, her radiance, and her incredibly gracious manner were breathtaking. With a gesture she pointed to three radiant angels resting nearby, their swan-like wings extended. Together we stood in a luxurious meadow beside an expansive blue lake. The love and light flowing from the woman were intensely captivating. I was spellbound by her beauty and her overpowering sweetness.

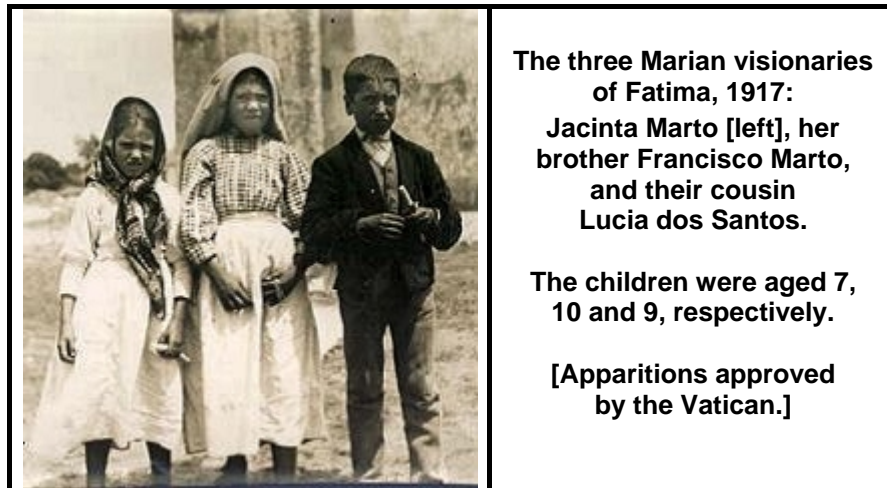
The experience lasted about ten minutes or more. She never spoke and I had no recollection afterwards that a message of any kind had been conveyed to me. But the longing to re-enter that state was immense. Every Thursday afternoon for months thereafter, at exactly the same time, I returned to our living room and waited for the woman to appear again. But she never did.

I am now aged 57 and that experience is still very clear in my memory. It is not something one forgets! Fortunately I was only 6½ years old when it occurred, so I was just a little too young to identify this dazzling woman as the Virgin Mary. Perhaps I might have done so had I discussed the vision with my parents or with one of the nuns at my local school, but I never did. It felt too personal – and puzzling – to discuss with anyone.



The experience was so seductive and so overwhelming to my senses that I was determined to have it again. As an aid to my quest I made a point of impressing on my memory the episode of the television program that I had been watching when the experience occurred. This proved to be invaluable when, many years later, I went to the National Library in Dublin and researched the television listings in their newspaper archive. This is how I learned the exact date of the apparition – Thursday 3rd May, 1962.

As a born-again Christian I can now see that the radiant woman and her beautiful companions were deceiving spirits. As fallen angels they each possessed a measure of supernatural power. The Bible states that Satan can appear as an angel of light. This means that both he and his servants can, if they so choose, appear in a vision as the sweetest and most beguiling figures that we could ever imagine. Indeed, as I learned from this experience, they can even appear as something that is beyond our ability to imagine. The emotional dimension of my experience was, in its captivating sweetness, far beyond anything I had known in the flesh.



And why did the fallen angels select me? Well, I figure they target whoever happens to be in the right place at the right time, especially a sensitive and undiscerning child. The previous occupants – the Roman Catholic priests – had lived in the house for many years and no doubt had performed rites and rituals in this very room that were apt to attract deceiving spirits.

Many years later, in April 1998, I happened to see a photo of the house in the real estate section of our daily newspaper. It was finally up for sale. After we sold it in 1970, it had been occupied continuously for 28 years by another Roman Catholic family. The mother, it turned out, had developed an intense devotion to Mary, to the point where she held regular Marian prayer vigils in her home and invited Catholics from all over town to attend. This was unusual, even by the standards of the time.

Eager to satisfy my curiosity, I paid a visit and took along my camera. Everything was pleasantly familiar. The original wallpaper even clung to the inside of several cupboards. However, when I got to the living room, my nostalgic mood immediately evaporated. Standing before me was an unusually large statue of the Virgin Mary, on the same spot where I had had my ‘Marian’ apparition 36 years earlier! [See photo below]



Shrine to the Virgin Mary (1998) in the 'Marian apparition' room of my childhood home.

The statue of the Virgin was over three feet tall.

The 'pose' is that of 'Our Lady of Fatima', approved by Sister Lucia.

This, I learned, was the room in which the Marian prayer vigils had been held, month after month, for years. And this was the elaborate shrine that the woman of the house had dedicated to Mary, garnished with flowers, candles, votary lamps, rosaries, and other Catholic paraphernalia. Perhaps she too had had a vision of Mary in that very room and had sought thereafter, much as I had done, to re-enter that ecstatic state and experience another apparition.

The impact was so powerful, especially for a child, that one would never think to question it. Only after I was born again in 2008 did it occur to me to examine the matter further and, as an aid to my analysis, to visit the National Library. In all it took me about 47 years to finally establish that the experience was produced by deceiving spirits. This is why I can understand the marked reluctance by Marian visionaries to question the origin of what they are seeing. How can something so beautiful, so utterly entrancing, be thoroughly and fundamentally evil?

Over the subsequent years of my childhood as a practising Catholic, I wore for a time both the Marian Scapular and the Miraculous Medal – devotional pendants dedicated to the Virgin – and yet I never thought to identify the woman in my vision as Mary. At the same time, I never doubted for a moment the authenticity of what I had seen or the ecstasy I had felt.



**The five Marian visionaries of
Beauraing, Belgium 1932-33:**

Front left: **Gilberte Degeimbre, age 9**
Front right: **Albert Voisin, age 11**
Center: **Andree Degeimbre, age 15**
Back left: **Fernande Voison, age 15**
Back right: **Gilberte Voison, age 13**

**[Apparition approved
by the Vatican.]**

When I was in the New Age Movement I met a woman from the West Indies who had had a similar experience around the same tender age. She too was a Catholic at the time. However, unlike me, she identified the woman with Mary and was utterly overcome by the experience. Even as she related her vision to me, her eyes opened in awe and wonder at the powerful emotions that her memory evoked. She said that she too had striven for years to get back into that state, to gaze once more on this incredibly beautiful woman, and to absorb once again the entrancing waves of light and love that flowed from her.

The Marian apparitions *are* real. An actual supernatural being *is* appearing to the women and children who have witnessed this phenomenon. And the reports of Guadalupe, Fatima, Garabandal, and Lourdes, among others, are sincere descriptions of an actual event. They are not hallucinations, fantasies, or the product of a mental disorder.

However, and this is the crux of the matter, these apparitions are **not** from God! Not one. There are **all** from another source.

I'll now try and show why this is so.







1. The true gospel is never taught by Mary

Incredibly, the Virgin has never in any of her apparitions given a clear statement of the gospel. This is a truly astonishing omission. She purports to bring the message of salvation to the world, but fails to give the one true message of salvation. Her entire focus is on prayer, confession, sacrifice ("Sacrifice yourselves for sinners" - Fatima 1917), eucharistic adoration, and regular recourse to the rosary.

The absence of the gospel from her countless messages does not seem to bother most Catholics. After all, they reason, why should she state the gospel if everyone knows it already? But this is absurd. If her message is one of great urgency – according to her own pronouncements – and concerns nothing less than the salvation of all mankind, then she would be expected to relate the gospel, clearly and accurately, time and time again.

The LORD wants everyone to hear the gospel! So why is she failing to give it? This is extremely troubling, unless of course she is not whom she claims to be. After all, the LAST thing Satan wants anyone to hear is the true gospel of Christ!

			
Catherine Labouré <i>Daughters of Charity</i> , Rue du Bac, Paris, 1830.	Catherine Byrne , one of 15 people, mostly adults, who shared the same vision in Knock, Co Mayo, 1879.	Sister Agnes Katsuko Sasagawa, Akita, Japan, 1973	Ida Peerdeman , Amsterdam, 1945
Vatican approved.	Vatican approved, though the apparition was almost certainly a hoax – see Appendix A	Highly influential. Approved by the local bishop.	Highly influential. Approved by the local bishop.

What is more, if she *did* give the gospel, she would immediately undermine her own position. To see why, just consider the gospel message: Christ alone died for our sins and took upon himself the sin debt of mankind; he fulfilled the prophecies set down in Scripture, suffering, dying and rising again after three days; he suffered and died in our place; and all who repent and believe in him are saved.

That's very simple, isn't it? But she NEVER repeats this simple but devastating truth. Why? Because it reveals that she had no role whatever in our salvation. Absolutely none! What is more, it would reveal that our sin debt was paid in its entirety on Calvary. Christ left nothing undone. There is not a single thing that any man can do to add to what Christ did on our behalf. When, in a spirit of true repentance, a sinner understands this and believes it with his whole heart, he is **born again**.

Most Catholics do not know this gospel! Instead, they have been taught only the false gospel of Rome, a gospel based on progressive salvation through good works and, in particular, participation in the sacramental rites of the Catholic Church. That gospel cannot save anyone.

Catholics don't believe the true gospel because they have never heard it! And Satan intends to keep it that way.

2. Her messages contradict the Bible

Most Catholics have little or no familiarity with the Bible, therefore it is difficult for them to realize the extent to which the messages given in the Marian apparitions conflict with the unchanging Word of God. For example,

- she endorses idolatry of the most flagrant and blasphemous kind.
- she refers repeatedly to Jesus in terms which suggest that she participates in some unspecified – and hitherto unrevealed – way in his divinity.
- she identifies herself as a divinely approved conduit for God's grace.
- she ascribes to herself certain attributes – such as the ability to stay the hand of God, to distribute the Holy Spirit, or to be continually present with each of her visionaries – that only a divine being could possess.
- she claims to have the ability and authority to bypass Christ and intercede directly with the Father on behalf of supplicants.
- she claims to possess the way of salvation and to be an essential agent in the salvation of souls.
- she repeatedly describes an End Time scenario that conflicts sharply with hundreds of passages in the Bible that prophesy the Second Coming of Christ.

This list is far from exhaustive. In fact it is difficult to find even one clear statement in any of her messages that accords perfectly with any part of Scripture. Most of her pronouncements either utilize or highlight one or more aspects of Roman Catholic theology, and are predicated throughout on the assumption that the teachings of Rome are those of Christ.

3. She never uses Scripture to authenticate her messages

The Marian messages approved to date run to many hundreds of pages. They are highly repetitive, even monotonous, and dwell extensively on herself, her role, her exalted position, her divinely-appointed authority, her supernatural power, and her miraculous ability to transform the lives of all who place their trust in her. In short, they are an elaborate, and often labored, celebration of her own grandeur.

And yet, despite the many exalted claims that she makes about herself, she hardly ever cites Scripture to authenticate any of them. In fact she conveys her messages as though she had no need to acknowledge the authority of God's Word. Reading through her numerous messages, one is struck by her repeated refusal to show how any of her grandiose claims are supported – anywhere, in any way – by the detailed plan of Redemption set out so lovingly by our Creator in the 66 books of the Bible.

Compare this attitude with that shown by Christ during his earthly ministry. Again and again he referred to passages from the Old Testament that authenticated his claims and showed how he fulfilled the many prophecies relating to the Messiah.

But the Virgin is above this! She never cites Scripture to authenticate her claims. She never even acknowledges the immutable truth of God's Holy Word.

4. The test of the Spirit is never applied

Since Catholics know so little about the Word of God, few understand the importance of the test specified in the first epistle of John:

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. (1 John 4:1-3)

Every Christian should have this passage emblazoned on their memory! We must test the spirits to see if they are of God. A lying spirit cannot give a truthful answer to this question. It cannot acknowledge that Jesus Christ was God incarnate in human flesh. All of the fallen angels are servants of the spirit of antichrist which, as John says, was already in the world in the first century A.D. We don't need to wait for the manifestation of this highly destructive spirit. It is already here and already using whatever channels it can to deceive the followers of Christ.

Did any of the Marian visionaries test the spirit of 'Mary'? No, they did not! They failed utterly to do what they should have done the moment the vision began.

Marian devotees protest that the validity of the apparitions is shown by their fruits. But this is not so! The Bible gives only one test. This test **MUST** be applied and if it is not, then the vision **CANNOT** be accepted as valid. The fact that Rome approves these visions knowing that the test was not applied – and in almost all cases could not have been applied – is proof that Rome is blatantly rejecting God's Word in this matter.

While we may know *people* by their fruits, we **cannot** know *spirits* in the same way. The scriptural test must be applied, and if the spirit fails to reply or gives an evasive reply, then the vision must be rejected. It is that simple.

5. She appears mainly to children and spinsters

Most of the Marian apparitions that have been officially approved by Rome, as well as many others that have greatly impressed the Marian movement worldwide, involve only women and children. What is more, the women tend to be professed nuns or spinsters.

There would seem to be a clear strategic purpose behind this. A child would never think to apply the test of the spirits in 1 John 4 or, indeed, would even know how to do so. Take the Fatima apparitions of 1917 – how could one reasonably expect three simple children from rural Portugal, aged 7, 9 and 10 respectively, to test the spirit? They could not possibly have known what the Word of God required of them. This explains why so many apparitions up to 1950 or thereabouts have involved only children. Satan knows what he's doing! He chooses his targets well.

Equally, a professed nun, or a devout spinster living a reclusive life, would hardly presume to challenge an apparition but would almost certainly welcome it as either a mark of distinction and a sign divine favor.

It is certainly disturbing that the Catholic Church can approve an apparition when the test in 1 John 4 has not been carried out! But it is a matter of real concern – and evidence of grave dishonesty – that a vision can be approved even in instances where the visionary was so young, or so lacking in basic spiritual knowledge, that she could not even have been expected to perform the test.

Incredibly, of the ten Marian apparitions between 1800 and 1950 that have been approved by the Vatican (and not just the local bishop), seven have involved children only! (Even though it was granted official approval by the Vatican and blessed by four Popes, the apparition at Knock in 1879 was clearly a hoax – see **Appendix A** – and is excluded from our analysis.)

Of the three that involved adults – Catherine Labouré in 1830, Marie Alphonse Ratisbonne in 1842, and Magdalena Kade in 1866 – the first, a nun, would almost certainly have lacked the motivation, and possibly even the understanding, to challenge the apparition, while the second, a Jew (who later converted), could not possibly have known how to apply the test in 1 John 4. The third visionary, Magdalena Kade (age 31), was a bedridden spinster who had suffered ill health for many years. At the time of the apparition, which was seemingly of short duration, she was very unwell and unlikely to challenge it.

Vatican-approved Marian apparitions, 1800-1950			
Apparition Title	Year	Country	Witnesses
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal	1830	France	Catholic nun
Our Lady of Zion	1842	Italy	Adult male Jew
Our Lady of La Salette	1846	France	2 children
Our Lady of Lourdes	1858	France	1 child
Our Lady Help of Christians	1866	Czech.	Adult female
Our Lady of Pontmain	1871	France	4 children
Our Lady of Gietrzwald	1877	Poland	2 children
<i>Our Lady of Knock (a)</i>	<i>1879</i>	<i>Ireland</i>	<i>11 adults & 4 children</i>
Our Lady of Fatima	1917	Portugal	3 children
Our Lady of Beauraing	1932-33	Belgium	5 children
Our Lady of Banneux	1933	Belgium	1 child

- (a) Individual testimonies from the Knock apparition are so unconvincing that the witnesses were almost certainly taken in by a hoax perpetrated through the use of a magic lantern. For proof of this see Appendix A.

Indeed, if we examine other high-profile apparitions that have exercised considerable influence over Catholic theology and practice, we find a similar pattern:

Apparition Title	Year	Country	Witnesses
Our Lady of Garabandal	1961-65	Spain	4 children
Our Lady of Akita	1973 and thereafter	Japan	Catholic nun
Our Lady of All Nations	1945-59	Holland	Ida Peerdeman (a)
Our Lady of Medjugorje	1981 and thereafter	Croatia	6 children

(a) Ida Peerdeman experienced most of her Marian apparitions from age 40, but she had had at least two at age 12. She therefore qualifies as a child visionary.

The following table gives the age profile of the various visionaries who witnessed the apparitions that we have discussed so far:

Apparition or individual	Age at time of first apparition
Catherine Labouré	Adult (nun)
Marie Alphonse Ratisbonne	Adult (male)
Magdalena Kade	Adult (female)
Beauraing (5)	9, 11, 13, 15, 15
Pontmain (4)	9, 10, 11, 12
Fatima (3)	7, 9, 10
La Salette (2)	11, 15
Gietrzwald (2)	12, 13
Lourdes	14
Banneux	12
Medjugorje (6)	10, 15, 16, 16, 16, 16
Garabandal (4)	11, 12, 12, 12
Ida Peerdeman	12
Agnes Katsuko Sasagawa (Japan)	Adult (nun)

It is unsettling to think that the strategic direction of a religious organization with over a billion members worldwide is being determined in the main by the supernatural experiences of some two dozen children and a few spinsters. The Enemy must be very satisfied.

6. The Bible warns that Satan can appear as an Angel of Light

For some reason a great many Catholics seem unable to accept the possibility that the apparitions may be, not just hallucinations or fantasies, but deliberate demonic deceptions. For them, the apparitions are either illusory or divine. They are loath to consider the third possibility, namely that they are a series of deceptions planned and perpetrated on a global scale by Satan and his angels.

If Catholics were less credulous and more objective, they would examine the evidence for themselves. For example, few seem to know that Ida Peerdeman, the visionary whose apparitions have been calling for the Virgin to be elevated by the Vatican to the rank of Co-Redemptrix, underwent an **exorcism** at her own request. The **demon** cast out of her actually cursed the priest who performed the exorcism. Sadly, there is virtually no discernment among those who endorse these apparitional phenomena.

Seemingly the millions of Marian devotees around the world are not concerned in the least that the test in 1 John 4 is not being carried out. But they ought to be concerned, very concerned. The Bible warns us that Satan is able to disguise himself in the most attractive form imaginable:

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11:13-14)

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. (Galatians 1:8)

Remember, any of the fallen angels can impersonate one of the elect angels – “an angel from heaven” – because they possess an identical nature. The imposter can then deliver “another gospel”, a false gospel. And this is what is happening. These so-called Marian apparitions have nothing whatever to do with the Mary of the Bible. They are in all instances the manifestation of Satan or one of his loyal servants, preaching a false gospel. The effect is even more seductive and beguiling when the imposter adopts a feminine form – Satan in satin.



7. The Bible clearly condemns Divination and Necromancy

Catholics have such a low regard for the Word of God that they blithely ignore the admonitions in the Old Testament that prohibit communication of any kind with the next world. To seek such communication is an appalling sin in the eyes of God. This holds true even if one is doing so vicariously through supernatural messages communicated to another person. This means that any Catholic today who studies and believes the messages given via these apparitions is actually guilty of divination and necromancy.

How do we know? Because the LORD God of all creation has told us!

There shall not be found among you any one that...useth divination... or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them [*the tribes of Canaan*] out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God. (Deuteronomy 18:10-13)

Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart. (Jeremiah 14:14)

True believers are warned in the New Testament that in the “latter days” – the time we are now in – many will give heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines taught by fallen angels:

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils (1 Timothy 4:1)

Why do Catholics ignore these dire warnings from the LORD? Why do they presume to be able to set aside God’s holy word and indulge in divination and necromancy? If God made no exceptions to His command, ***then there are no exceptions!*** They are playing with fire when they brazenly reject what He said in Isaiah -

I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another
(Isaiah 42:8)

8. The Bible clearly condemns idolatry

There are few sinful practices that delight the Enemy as much as idolatry. He promotes it at every opportunity because he knows that it is impossible to maintain fellowship with the one, true God – “the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel” (2 Chronicles 30:6) – and at the same time give respect to an idol of any kind. This is why the Marian apparitions are so pernicious. They are both idolatrous in themselves and they encourage the passionate pursuit of other forms of idolatry – eucharistic adoration, rosary recitation, the wearing of medals and scapulars, attendance at Marian shrines, and so forth.

The Miraculous Medal: When the Virgin appeared to Catherine Labouré in 1830, she asked that a special medal be prepared in her honor and made available to Catholics around the world. She even specified the actual design, both front and back. This is the famous “Miraculous Medal”, or Medal of the Immaculate Conception, which is intended to exalt the person of Mary and encourage her veneration among Catholics. Those who wear it are supposed to receive special grace and favor from the Queen of Heaven.

How does this spread the gospel? How does this exalt Jesus? How does this encourage believers to glory in what Christ has achieved for each one of us? Of course, it doesn't do any of these. Rather it does precisely the opposite. It exalts the so-called Queen of Heaven and what she has supposedly done for believers. Indeed it even ascribes to Mary, in many respects, the same stature as Christ.

This is a recurring theme throughout virtually all of the apparitions, where the Virgin continually identifies herself in some manner with the person, mission, sacrifice, mediation, glory, and divinity of Christ. She repeatedly asserts that her "Son" can do almost nothing without her participation, that she has been given the task by the Holy Trinity of bringing to fruition the great plan of salvation that God Himself set in motion several thousand years ago.



Here is how one Vatican-approved Marian visionary, Mary of Agreda, described the Coronation of Mary as the Queen of Heaven, a scene that she was 'privileged' to witness in a mystical vision around 1617:

“We [the Trinity] give Thee power, majesty and sovereignty ... receive now the supreme dignity deserved by Thee and, as a participation in our Divinity, the dominion over all the creatures of our Omnipotence.”

Power, majesty, sovereignty, dominion, divinity? What exactly is happening here? Mary is taking the place of Christ! What is more, the Papacy has since given its full approval to this new gospel:

The foundation of all Our confidence, as you know well, Venerable Brethren, is found in the Blessed Virgin Mary. For God has committed to Mary the treasury of all good things, in order that everyone may know that through her are obtained every hope, every grace, and all salvation. For this is His will, that we obtain everything through Mary.

– Pope Pius IX, Encyclical *Ubi primum*, February 2, 1849

How can Catholics wear this peculiar object, the Miraculous Medal, knowing that the LORD God of Israel has condemned idolatry of any kind? Do they not know the Second Commandment? As it happens, very few do! Rome deliberately omits it from her list of Commandments! To conceal her omission, she divides the 10th Commandment into two parts and fails ever to mention the crucial passage from Exodus that gives the Second Commandment:

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. (Exodus 20: 4-6)

This Commandment does not appear in the official Catechism of the Catholic Church! Instead its version of the Second Commandment reads as follows:

2141...You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain...You have heard that it was said to the men of old, "You shall not swear falsely..But I say to you, Do not swear at all...2142 The second commandment prescribes respect for the Lord's name. Like the first commandment, it belongs to the virtue of religion and more particularly it governs our use of speech in sacred matters.

Ironically, in paragraph 2113 of its Catechism, Rome actually states that “Man commits idolatry whenever he honors and reveres a creature in place of God.” But Mary is a creature. She was created. She is not divine. So they have unwittingly conceded in their own Catechism that the veneration of Mary is unqualified idolatry!

The Miraculous Medal is an icon designed by Satan to insinuate Mary into the lives of undiscerning Catholics, to invest her with quasi-divine attributes, and to portray her as a necessary step on the road to salvation.

The Devotional Scapulars: During one of the Marian apparitions at Fatima in 1917, the Virgin carried a rosary and a scapular and told the child visionaries that “The rosary and the scapular are inseparable.” At one go she endorsed two ***sacramentals***, material objects which, according to official Catholic doctrine, when blessed by a priest and worn by the faithful, assist with the remission of sin (“indulgences”).

The “scapular” is a pendant comprising two matching pieces of cloth which, when hung around one’s neck, ‘cover’ the heart of the wearer front and back. Rome has officially approved 18 or more scapulars, the most popular of which are ‘The Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel’ (commonly known as the Brown Scapular) and ‘The Scapular of the Immaculate Conception’ (sometimes called the Blue Scapular). [See graphic below.]

Three of the 18 Scapulars approved by Rome

A scapular is a visible pledge that the wearer belongs to Mary and is a member of a confraternity or lay order of Catholics who have a special devotion to Mary. Scapulars confer special "privileges" and even "indulgences" (forgiveness of sin). They are made of cloth to reflect their monastic origin. The word scapular is derived from *scapula*, the Latin for 'shoulder'.



The Brown Scapular

In honor of
"Our Lady of Mount Carmel"



The Blue Scapular

In honor of
"Our Lady of the
Immaculate Conception"



The Green Scapular

In honor of
"The Immaculate Heart of Mary"

The Rosary: The term Rosary refers both to a set of prescribed Marian prayers and to the string of beads used to count them off as they are recited. This sacramental and the prayer rite associated with it are strongly endorsed by the Marian apparitions. For example, at Fatima she said: “I want you to...continue to pray the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war [WWI] for she alone can help.”



By recommending the recitation of the Rosary, the Virgin is also recommending the many prayers associated with it, including:

The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Heaven & Earth

Let us trust in Mary, Let us call to Her, let us love Her, let us confide in Her, because She gives Her all to us. We have a Mother in Heaven who is also a Queen; thus we need to turn to Her with full faith and hopefulness. If we ask for something while praying the Holy Rosary, it will be granted to us. Ask Her for the gift of prayer, a prayer of the heart, said only for love, a love for Her and Jesus. Let us also ask for a consistency of prayer, to always be joined to Her Heart, and therefore to the Heart of Jesus.

Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy! our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley, of tears. Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

<i>...Holy Mary, pray for us.</i>	<i>Vessel of honour,</i>
<i>Holy Mother of God,</i>	<i><u>Singular vessel of devotion,</u></i>
<i>Holy Virgin of virgins,</i>	<i>Mystical rose,</i>
<i>Mother of Christ,</i>	<i>Tower of David,</i>
<i><u>Mother of the Church,</u></i>	<i>Tower of ivory,</i>
<i><u>Mother of divine grace,</u></i>	<i>House of gold,</i>
<i>Mother most pure,</i>	<i><u>Ark of the covenant,</u></i>
<i>Mother most chaste,</i>	<i><u>Gate of heaven,</u></i>
<i>Mother inviolate,</i>	<i><u>Morning star,</u></i>
<i>Mother undefiled,</i>	<i>Health of the sick,</i>
<i>Mother most amiable,</i>	<i>Refuge of sinners,</i>
<i>Mother admirable,</i>	<i>Comfort of the afflicted,</i>
<i>Mother of good counsel,</i>	<i>Help of Christians,</i>
<i>Mother of our Creator,</i>	<i><u>Queen of Angels,</u></i>
<i>Mother of our Saviour,</i>	<i>Queen of Patriarchs,</i>
<i>Mother of mercy,</i>	<i>Queen of Prophets,</i>
<i>Virgin most prudent,</i>	<i>Queen of Apostles,</i>
<i>Virgin most venerable,</i>	<i>Queen of Martyrs,</i>
<i>Virgin most renowned,</i>	<i>Queen of Confessors,</i>
<i>Virgin most powerful,</i>	<i>Queen of Virgins,</i>
<i>Virgin most merciful,</i>	<i>Queen of all Saints,</i>
<i>Virgin most faithful,</i>	<i><u>Queen conceived without original sin,</u></i>
<i>Mirror of justice,</i>	<i><u>Queen assumed into heaven,</u></i>
<i>Seat of wisdom,</i>	<i><u>Queen of the most holy Rosary,</u></i>
<i>Cause of our joy,</i>	<i>Queen of families,</i>
<i>Spiritual vessel,</i>	<i>Queen of peace...</i>

It is hard to interpret these ‘prayers’ as anything less than an extended exercise in self-adulation and a concerted claim by Mary to parity with Jesus. Many of the attributes and titles that she claims to possess are plainly those of a transcendental or divine being – Mother of Divine Grace, Singular Vessel of Devotion, Ark of the Covenant, Gate of Heaven, Holy Queen, Gracious Advocate, Mother of Mercy, Queen of Angels... (There are deities in the Hindu pantheon that would envy such titles!)

The Holy Trinity (3 Persons) has become the Holy Quaternity (4 Persons) in Roman Catholic theology.

9. Eucharistic adoration

Whenever the apparitions focus attention on Jesus, it is generally in the form of the ‘Eucharist’, the Roman Catholic word for the communion bread. Thus the ‘Jesus’ she is referring to is the entity created by the priest through the Catholic “sacrifice of the Mass”, where the mystical act of *transubstantiation* is supposed to take place. In Roman theology, the bread is not considered to be bread but, following transubstantiation, becomes the actual flesh of Christ in the *appearance* of bread. Equally, the wine is meant to have undergone a similar mystical process of transformation and become the actual blood of Christ.

The Catholic belief in the reduction of Jesus, the Son of God, to an inanimate object must surely qualify as one of Satan's greatest deceptions. It is not surprising, therefore, that the exaltation of Mary via her many apparitions should be accompanied by a corresponding trivialization of the person of Christ. While she reigns in glory above the angels, the saints, and the prophets, dispensing grace through her immaculate heart, he is trapped in a piece of bread.

Even as a child in Catholic Ireland of the 1960s, I was struck by this extraordinary contrast. The previous paragraph expresses my perception at *that time* and should not be taken simply as a criticism by a born-again Christian. I am fully aware that many devout Catholics take such comments very personally, but they are unable to give a scriptural response. And a scriptural response is the only one that the LORD will accept. Christ died **once** for our sins and sits today at the right hand of the Father:

But this man [Christ], because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

(Hebrews 7:24-27)

If you are a Catholic please dwell on this scripture until its glorious truth has blossomed in your mind and in your heart. And if you are an Evangelical Christian who has not yet rejected the subversive accord, *Evangelicals and Catholics Together* (1994), reflect on this scripture and consider how far into the depths of apostasy you have already fallen.

The Marian apparitions tell us, in no uncertain terms, that Satan intends to use Eucharistic Adoration – systematic public worship of the wafer as though it were Christ – as a key element in his plan to create a One World religion. And as men and women bow before it, he will likely infuse many of them with a beguiling ecstasy, a bliss so intense that they will believe they have approached the very threshold of heaven. *[We will discuss this further in Section 11.]*

10. The apparitions endorse a false prophet

The apparitions refer repeatedly to the Pope as “the Holy Father”. The Virgin has also asked that messages of various kinds be conveyed to him, whether secrets vouched only to him or requests for the approval of certain Marian dogmas. In doing this she is raising him far above all other persons on earth, and effectively recognizing him as the Vicar of Christ, the divinely-appointed spiritual authority of all mankind. For example, at Medjugorje (November 8, 1981), the visionaries reported: “The Blessed Virgin kisses an image of the Pope and says: *It is your father, the spiritual father of all.*” In a later apparition (September 26, 1982) she asked that they deliver the following message to the Pope, John Paul II: “*Have him consider himself the father of all mankind, and not only of Christians. Have him spread untiringly and with courage the message of peace and love among all mankind.*”

By elevating the Pope in this way, the Virgin is endowing his office with sufficient authority to vindicate her claims. Through *his* repeated affirmation of *her*, the Pope is endorsing the theology embedded in her messages. By the same token, through *her* repeated affirmation of *him*, the perceived supernatural authority of the Pope is being progressively enhanced. In due course his global standing will be such that, when he propounds the dogma of Mary as Co-Redemptrix, Catholics everywhere will be disposed to accept it.

It is not generally known that the final impetus to declare the infallibility of the Pope, which was ultimately promulgated in 1870, came on foot of a message from Mary to Don Bosco, an Italian priest, and conveyed by him to Pope Pius IX:

(To the Pope) Do not halt in the face of difficulties, but go forth until the hydra of error has been beheaded (*through the proclamation of the dogma of papal infallibility*). At this blow earth and hell shall tremble, but the world will be saved and the faithful shall exult...These things shall inexorably come to pass, all in succession. Things follow too slowly upon each other, but the great Queen of Heaven is at hand; the Lord's power is Hers. Like mist She shall scatter Her enemies. She shall vest the Venerable Old Man (*the Pope*) with all his former garments.

– First vision of Don Bosco (1870)



This last statement is highly significant. If the Pope is one day to be vested “with all his former garments”, he must regain the political and spiritual authority that his ancient office formerly commanded, when kings and princes did nothing without his approval and when even the most powerful nations acknowledged his absolute sovereignty over their internal affairs. In those days, from about 800-1500 AD, the “Venerable Old Man” was the undisputed ruler of Europe. Clearly Satan envisages a time when he will once again enjoy absolute political ascendancy within a unified, pan-European federation.

Through the supposed power of Papal infallibility, the Pope is able to interpret Scripture as he sees fit and to issue Encyclicals that supersede the all-powerful Magisterium. These missives carry the same weight as Scripture and are to be accepted by Catholics as though they had issued from Christ himself. Thus, by endorsing the Pope, the Virgin is also confirming his standing as a prophet and mouthpiece for Christ.

11. Veneration of the Goddess

Catholics are offended if the Virgin is described as a goddess. They argue that she is only a sinless human upon whom the Holy Trinity has devolved extraordinary privileges, including participation in functions that would otherwise be exercised by God alone. Thus, while she may be blessed with exceptional supernatural attributes, powers and privileges, she is not actually divine.

This line of reasoning conflicts outrageously with the facts. She claims to be a Co-Redemptrix, an active partner in the salvation of mankind! She claims to be a living Mediator between God and all humanity! She claims to be the conduit of all heavenly grace and bounty. She claims to be the sufficient recipient of all prayers and supplications for divine mercy and protection. She claims to be able to stay the arm of God's wrath, to set aside the penalty for sin, and to pluck souls from purgatory. She claims to be continually present supernaturally with all who venerate her immaculate heart. And on and on...

These are all attributes that God alone possesses. Only a cavalier disregard for Biblical truth would enable these boastful assertions to be viewed as anything less than a profession of divinity. In fact, the entity masquerading as Mary is trying to convince Catholics that, not only is she divine, but that she is more accessible, more tender, and more compassionate than Christ!

She also diminishes our Savior in a number of ways through her apparitions. Sometimes she appears with a little infant in her arms, presumably the baby Jesus, as though to emphasize *his* total dependence upon *her*. She has also stated or implied on several occasions that her immaculate heart suffers still for the sins of mankind and that full expiation can only be achieved through sacrifices made in her name.



Catholics are being tricked into believing that Christ merely initiated a process of salvation on Calvary that can only be brought to completion by Mary. Satan is using these apparitions to preach a false gospel, to denigrate the gift of salvation through Christ alone, and to lure the undiscerning masses into perdition.

Marianists may counter, “But Catholics believe in *both* Christ and Mary, and *all* who believe in Christ are saved.”

Really? Anyone who believes that Mary plays any part whatever in his salvation has rejected Christ and the infinite sufficiency of his sacrifice on Calvary. The ‘Christ’ of Rome is a false Christ, a savior who failed to save anyone. Unless we come to Christ as he truly is, and to him alone, we are lost. And Satan knows this!

Perhaps the most disturbing category of idolatry that the Marian apparitions promote is the worship or “veneration” of Mary herself. The more securely she fastens her hold over the imagination of Catholics everywhere, the more successful she is in advancing doctrines that conflict with the Bible. And the best way to do this is to ascribe to herself a power and a status equal to that of God.

As Don Bosco declared in the vision quoted above, “the Lord’s power is Hers”. Countless Catholic ‘saints’ and mystics, following Marian-type revelations, visions and “interior locutions”, have accorded to Mary a power and glory equal to that of Christ himself.

She used an apparition in 1830 (to Catherine Labouré) to urge the Papacy to pronounce the doctrine of her Immaculate Conception, which Pope Pius IX duly did in 1854. This meant that she herself was conceived without original sin. Since Christ alone was conceived without sin, according to Scripture, the Catholic Church is claiming that Mary possesses an attribute of deity. All practising Catholics are obliged to subscribe to this doctrine and accept her implicit divinity.

The cult of Mary’s sinlessness was further enhanced by the apparitions of Lourdes (1858) and Fatima (1917). In these she clearly implied that she had been sinless throughout her earthly life: “I am the Immaculate Conception” (Lourdes), which emphasized her sinless birth. By framing it in a title she implies that her sinless state has never changed. And at Fatima she said: “He (*i.e. Jesus*) wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart”. The Oxford English Dictionary defines “devotion” as “religious worship or observance”. And that is exactly what she wants – devotion, adoration and worship, all prerogatives of deity.

At Fatima she asked the three children to pray the following prayer: “O my Jesus, this is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.” In declaring sin to be an offense against her own “Immaculate Heart”, she is claiming to be divine because, as the Bible tells us, the offense of sin is something that pertains to God alone: “Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight” – Psalm 51:4, after David had sinned with Bathsheba and murdered her husband.

The progressive deification of Mary continued with the Papal proclamation by Pius XII in 1950 that Mary had been assumed bodily into heaven. The Eastern Orthodox Church has a similar doctrine but with the notable difference that Mary died, was resurrected and only then did she ascend into heaven. Rome on the other hand did not make a dogmatic statement regarding the death of Mary, but has cunningly left the question open. Many Catholics believe she didn't die but was glorified as she ascended.



This may seem like a minor detail in the florid bouquet of Marian perfections, but it is potentially very significant since, by leaving open the possibility that Mary did not undergo physical death, the Roman church can claim that she enjoys at least one divine glory that Christ did not possess. While *he* had to die to redeem the world, *she* succeeded in performing her redemptive role without having to experience death.

The supernatural entity behind the apparitions is working hard to secure Papal endorsement for the final step, where Mary is formally declared Co-Redemptrix with Christ, as well as Mediatrix or conduit of all grace from the Father, and Advocate of all believers.

According to the Catholic theologians and Marian mystics, her role as Co-Redemptrix was confirmed at the Annunciation when she was commissioned by God the Father, via the angel Gabriel, to bear the Messiah. Only through her acceptance was redemption possible. She therefore shared both spiritually and bodily in the salvation of mankind.

As Mediatrix, she allegedly mediates the grace of God **to man** and, since man receives everything from God through Mary (Encyclical *Ubi primum*, 1849), her role as Mediatrix is essential for our salvation. Christ alone as Mediator will not suffice.

As Advocate she pleads or intercedes **for man** before God, ostensibly via the Second Person, but many of her official prayers (*Memorare*, *Hail Holy Queen*, *Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes*, *Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel*, *Prayer to Our Lady Help of Christians*, etc) imply that she has the power and authority to plead directly before the Father on behalf of her devotees. Indeed, at Medjugorje she boasted that she actually goes directly before Almighty God: “*I am near to you, little children, and intercede for every one of you before the Most High.*” (25 June, 1995)

Once she achieves this status – Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix, Advocate – within the Roman Catholic Church, she will effectively have replaced Jesus. She will be a Goddess in all but name. Every function that our wonderful High Priest currently performs will be replicated by Mary.

This means that followers of other religions that either worship the Goddess or venerate Mary as a perfect and immaculate being (as in Islam), will be able to join the Roman Catholic Church and become “christian” without having to acknowledge the deity of Jesus. The One World Religion will have come into existence.

Furthermore, since the Virgin has already acknowledged the Pope as her official representative on earth, the so-called Vicar of Christ will be known also as the Vicar of Mary and divinely-appointed head of the One World Religion.

- The Lady of All Nations

Perhaps the most influential visionary in regard to this final step is Ida Peerdeman, whom we have already mentioned. Over the course of 56 apparitions between 1945 and 1959, the Virgin set out in emphatic terms exactly what she wanted the Pope to do.

She began with the dissemination of her ‘picture’ or image, which she insisted must be prepared exactly as she prescribed and made available to the world, along with her special prayer. The following excerpts illustrate her demands:

I see the Lady standing on the globe. She points at the globe and says to me, My child, I am standing on this globe, because I want to be called The Lady of All Nations. The words ‘of All Nations’ arrange themselves round her in a semicircle. [16 November 1950]



The picture known as “The Lady of All Nations”, details of which were revealed in an apparition of the Virgin Mary to Ida Peerdeman in Amsterdam on November 16, 1950.

The Lady is standing in front of the Cross, with the world at her feet. The words above the Cross read “de Vrouwe van alle Volkeren” (The Lady of All Nations). Her palms bear the wounds of crucifixion nails.

Her sash or girdle is “as the loin-cloth of the Son.”

Three rays of light – Grace, Redemption, and Peace – are streaming from each of her wounded hands and falling like “snow”, while a large flock of sheep, representing all nations, gather beneath the globe. The sheep are gradually being enveloped by the supernatural “snow”.

Then the Lady says, Pray before the Cross:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father,
send now Your Spirit over the earth.
Let the Holy Spirit live in the hearts of all nations,
that they may be preserved
from degeneration, disaster and war.
May the Lady of All Nations, who once was Mary,
be our Advocate. Amen.

...Child, this is so simple and short that everyone can say it in one's own language, before one's own crucifix; and those who have no crucifix say it to themselves. [11 February 1951]

Have this picture of me painted and, together with it, spread the prayer I have taught you. This is my wish for today. And I want this to be done in many languages...once more I insist that this must be done. It is of great importance...I am standing upon the globe because this message concerns the whole world. [4 March 1951]

Listen carefully to the explanation I am about to give, and try to grasp the contents of this message. I stand before the Cross with my head, hands and feet as those of a human being. The rest is of the Spirit. Why do I stand like this? My body has been taken up like the Son was. Now I stand an oblation before the Cross. For I have suffered with my Son, spiritually and above all bodily. This will become a much contested dogma...My child pass it on and say, 'This brings the Marian dogmas to a conclusion.'...My child, just as He suffered, so did I suffer as the Mother of the Son of Man. Repeat this correctly. [1 April 1951]

Mary: "Now look at my hands and relate what you see."

Peerdeman: "Now I see in the palms of her hands what appear to be wounds already healed and from these, rays of light stream out, three from each hand, and diffuse themselves among the sheep." [31 May 1951]

One can see from these messages how carefully the Virgin insinuates herself into the place of Jesus. Her head, hands and feet are human, but the rest of her is divine ("of the Spirit"). She was lifted bodily into heaven, just like Jesus. She stands with him as an oblation – offering to God – before the Cross. And she suffered with him, both spiritually and bodily. Not only did she suffer, but she suffered "just as he suffered"! She even has the wounds of the nails in her hands – the infamous *stigmata* – and wears a garment corresponding to his loin-cloth. In making these extraordinary claims, she acknowledges that this will become a "much contested dogma", the final dogma in a series of dogmas that will ultimately culminate in her deification.

The earlier Marian dogmas to which she refers are a dramatic illustration of just how devious and farsighted Satan has been in planning and implementing his program of deception:

Dogma	Year	Source	Doctrine
#1	431	First Council of Ephesus	The Mother of God: the doctrine of divine motherhood; that Mary begot according to the flesh the Word of God made flesh.
#2	553	Second Council of Constantinople	The Perpetual Virginity of Mary: that her virginity remained intact even after she gave birth to Jesus and that she bore no subsequent children; “ever virgin”.
#3	1854	Papal Encyclical <i>Ineffabilis Deus</i>	The Immaculate Conception: that Mary, from the first moment of her own conception, by a singular grace and privilege from God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free of every stain of original sin.
#4	1950	Papal Encyclical <i>Munificentissimus Deus</i>	The Assumption of Mary that Mary was taken (“assumed”) bodily into heavenly glory. The doctrine implies that she assists Christ in heaven as she did on earth.

Over time the “Mother of God” dogma of 431 AD became the mother of all the unscriptural dogmas that followed it. Theologians reasoned that, if she was the “Mother of God”, then she *must* have been a perpetual virgin, she *must* have been conceived without sin and remained so throughout her life, and she *must* have been taken bodily into heaven because she was without sin, and death is the result of sin. The same “Mother of God” logic will also be used, no doubt, to give Satan what he demanded in his apparitions to Peerdeman, namely the formal deification of Mary.

Mary is not the Mother of God or anything of that nature. She was simply a young woman chosen by God to give birth to Jesus, having conceived him supernaturally. She was not sinless. Furthermore, she went on to give birth to several other children by natural conception, as the Bible clearly states.

It is quite possible that Rome will consider it expedient to pursue the remaining proclamations sought by Satan by breaking them into three separate dogmas, *Mary as Advocate*, *Mary as Mediatrix*, and *Mary as Co-Redemptrix*. The climate prevailing among the Catholic community worldwide is such that the first and second should meet with little resistance and could even be implemented via the same Encyclical.

The really hard one to ‘sell’ is the last, the dogma of Co-Redemptrix. This is the one that Satan craves the most since, as he notes himself in his apparition to Peerdeman, it marks the completion of his Marian plan. He will have provided Roman Catholics with a perfect redemptive substitute for Christ and opened the door to all religions.

Many Catholics around the world will need more than clever arguments from theologians if they are to accept as a dogma of faith the doctrine of Co-Redemptrix. However, they have already been conditioned to seek signs from heaven to substantiate a claim of this nature, much like the signs – the Marian apparitions of Paris (1830), Lourdes and Fatima – that facilitated the formalization and acceptance of previous Marian doctrines. Since Satan provided the required signs in the past, we may expect him to do so again in the future, perhaps on a more dramatic scale.

Over the course of her many apparitions the Virgin has stressed repeatedly the need to promulgate this new dogma at all costs. Again and again she emphasized that God Himself has issued the decree. Furthermore He had done so at this time because the world is about to enter a great crisis, a terrifying period of global conflict which cannot be resolved without her personal intervention:

Repeat this after me: The new dogma will be the dogma of the Co-Redemptrix...For the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit wills to send the Lady, chosen to bear the Redeemer into this world, as Co-Redemptrix and Advocate. [29 April 1951]

Now look hard at my hands. From them emanate Grace, Redemption and Peace. The rays shine upon all peoples. [2 July 1951]

Mankind has been entrusted to the Mother. [15 August 1951]

Co-Redemptrix I already was at the Annuciation. This means that the Mother became Co-Redemptrix by the Will of the Father. Tell your theologians this. Tell them, moreover, that this will be the last dogma in Marian history. [15 November 1951]

How is it that this new title – the Lady of All Nations – only now enters the world? It is because the Lord reserved it for this time. [5 October 1952]

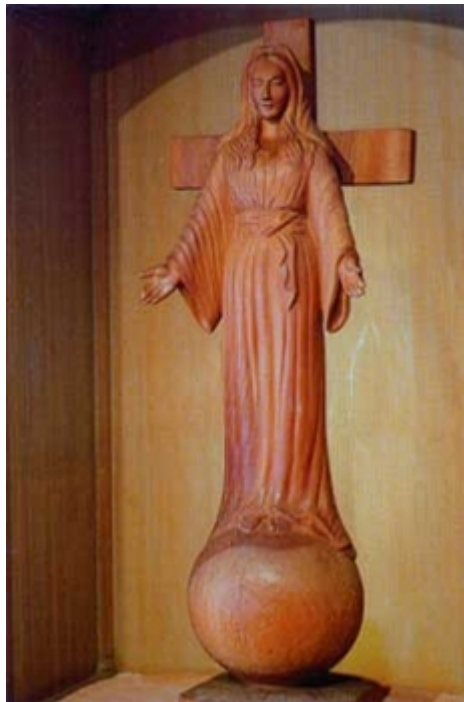
Note the arrogance, the sheer audacity, that runs through these statements!

[A more detailed set of extracts from her messages may be found in **Appendix B**]

The attitude of the Papacy to the Peerdeman doctrines is already well known. Pope John Paul II was an ardent Marianist and in several public pronouncements referred to Mary as both Mediatrix and Redemptrix. Pope Benedict XVI has also given these doctrines his personal endorsement. Thus all that is now needed for their promulgation as dogmas binding on all Catholics is further evidence of popular support for their introduction.



Judging by the huge increase in the reported number of Marian apparitions worldwide over the past two decades we know that the Enemy is busily preparing the ground for the ultimate acceptance of these new dogmas. He is even giving apparitions that emphasize the significance of previous apparitions and in this way reinforcing the messages that they conveyed. For example, the Peerdeman apparitions received supernatural confirmation when a Japanese nun, Sister Agnes Katsuko Sasagawa, began to receive visitations from Mary in Akita in 1973. The apparitions were accompanied by a series of miracles that seemed to validate what the visionary claimed she saw. A wooden statue of the Virgin began to weep and did so, it is said, on no fewer than 101 occasions over the ensuing six years. These miracles seemed to imply that the Peerdeman messages were valid since the statue in question was none other than *The Lady of All Nations*:



The weeping statue of the Virgin in Akita, Japan. The image is that of *The Lady of All Nations*.



Note the tears.

A major milestone was reached on 31 May 2002 when Jozef Marianus Punt, Bishop of Haarlem-Amsterdam, officially declared the Peerdeman apparitions to be of supernatural origin. Given the radical theological implications of the messages conveyed to Peerdeman, this date may well be regarded in due course as one of the most significant in the dark history of fallen man.

By giving official ecclesiastical approval to the Peerdeman messages, he opened the door to far-reaching doctrinal changes within the Catholic Church and, crucially, to the arrival in due course of the man whom Mary herself will likely approve – the Antichrist.

After all, if she is in effect a Goddess in direct communication with mankind, then she will be expected to fulfil her *Lady of All Nations* mandate. And if the world *does* eventually plunge into the terrible crisis that she herself has been predicting, she is virtually obliged under the terms of her own mandate to send her ‘Son’ to restore peace and bring healing. This is the ultimate purpose of the Marian apparitions, to prepare the way for Satan’s ‘man of peace’.



- Eucharistic Adoration

Before proceeding to our next topic, the alleged sinlessness of Mary, we should note that Ida Peerdeman performed so successfully as a medium and voice for Satan – 56 apparitions over 14 years – that she was selected as the principal conduit for another of his major deceptions, **Eucharistic Adoration**. These revelatory messages came in the form of “Eucharistic experiences” as she put it, in which the doctrines of transubstantiation and worship of the communion wafer were presented as crucial elements in the End Time salvation of mankind. In all, she claimed to have received 151 of these experiences, usually during her attendance at the Catholic ritual known as the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

On his excellent website, wayoflife.org, David Cloud relays the story of a young woman who, in her search for God, attended a Catholic ‘Mass’ and had a similar ‘Eucharistic experience’. Here is what she said to Pastor Cloud [paragraphing added]:

I was raised in a very rigid catholic religion in the [period] 1940-1950 and I learned only about a God of wrath. At the age of twenty, I quit the Catholic Church because I was unable to observe all their laws. For the next 25 years, I forgot about God. But God never forgot me. Through a long, circuitous and painful road, he led me back to Him, the real God. I am a recent convert to the Baptist faith. I was baptized in September [2008] and will now be part of a very small French Baptist church in Canada.

What I want to tell you is about your writings on mysticism. You can take the girl out of the Catholic Church, but it is very hard to take the church out of the girl. Until I started reading your books, I never really re-examined what I was taught with my mother's milk. I did not like the Catholic Church but I could not tell you what was wrong with it. To make a long story short, on August the 9th, 2008, I went to a family wedding in a catholic church.

Of course, I remained in my pew and did not partake of Communion because I do not believe in it. But the emotional fervor around me was so strong as to become palpable. And all of a sudden, I was enveloped in a warm sort of embrace that was so powerful and so marvelously pleasant that I was amazed. What is happening? I thought.

It got stronger and stronger, and more and more physically enjoyable. My hands, feet, mouth, my whole face started to tingle very pleasurably. I was immensely drawn into that warm, loving, physical feeling.

Then I heard myself whisper: Too bad it is not true, it is so pleasant.

And then, I came back forcefully to myself and said NO! NO! And the thing left me.

I did not know what it was but I had a strong feeling it was wrong. Since then, I happened to read a book by Roger Oakland, *The Eucharistic Jesus* [a], where he speaks quite clearly of the end-times delusion of experiential spirituality mentioned in the Bible.

And even after it left me, I could feel and almost see that thing around other people in the church who had swallowed their 'wafer god.' It is going to be very hard for people who undergo this experience repeatedly to believe it does not come from God. And only the Holy Spirit protecting me allowed me to refuse it.

The Lord has protected me all my life, even when I did not belong to Him yet. But my poor, poor family. How I weep for them! And I pray daily that the Lord opens their mind and their heart to His word. But this 'thing' is so, so seducing. It will take a mighty wind of the Lord to tear it away from my family.

By the way, the Catholic Church calls it an anointing of the Lord. I call it the embrace of Satan. Pray for us, please, I will also pray for you.

– **From *O Timothy* magazine, Oct 2012**

[a] She may be referring to *Another Jesus: The Eucharistic Christ and the New Evangelization* by Roger Oakland and Jim Tetlow, Lighthouse Trails, 2007.

The great End Time deception to which she alludes is going to see an explosion of “experiences” like this one, where countless unsuspecting people will be lured to their destruction by experiential spirituality, where the warnings in the Word of God are ignored, and where Truth is defined by how one feels, by ecstatic emotions, intuitive messages, and mystical experiences.

Just before his crucifixion, Christ was asked by his disciples to describe the signs they should expect to see as the End Time approached, just prior to his Second Coming. While he described a number of signs, the one he emphasized the most was **deception**, in particular the emergence of a counterfeit version of Christianity that would deceive almost everyone:

“Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many... For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before.” (Matthew 24:4-5, 24-25)

12. Mary was conceived in original sin

The cult of Mary depends critically on her alleged sinless perfection. Marian devotees claim that she was born without original sin, that she lived a perfectly sinless life and that, because of her immaculate perfection in both body and soul, she was taken bodily into heaven.

These beliefs, most of which are enshrined in Papal Encyclicals and therefore carry dogmatic force in Roman theology, are refuted by Scripture. The Word of God tells us that all of mankind is under the condemnation of sin. There has only ever been one exception to this, namely Jesus, who was conceived supernaturally by the Holy Spirit. He alone lived a sinless life because he alone fulfilled the Law.

Mary was not immaculately conceived since she was not born of the Holy Spirit. She had an earthly biological mother and an earthly biological father. All who are born in this manner are born in sin. There are no exceptions (“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” – Romans 3:23). Indeed, the very possibility is ruled out by the nature of sin, which entered through the flesh of Adam and Eve and was transmitted thereafter to all generations. If an exception were possible, then our heavenly Father would not have had to take the unthinkable option of sending his only begotten Son to take our entire sin debt upon himself and suffer and die on the Cross. He could have spared His Son this awful ordeal by exploiting the other option. But He didn’t because there was no other option.

In reality, the “explanation” offered by Rome explains nothing. If Mary needed to be free of original sin in order to give birth to Jesus by immaculate conception, then she must have been born to a woman who *herself* was conceived without original sin, and so on indefinitely. This makes absolutely no sense. It is what the logicians call a *reductio ad absurdum*. If, after following a premise to its natural conclusion, one arrives at an absurd result, then the premise is false.



One can see from this analysis that the Vatican theologians are talking complete nonsense when they claim that Mary was conceived without original sin. The Word of God gives additional – and incontrovertible – evidence, if such were needed, that Mary had the same sin nature as the rest of mankind. When she went to visit Elizabeth shortly after the Annunciation, she said: “My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.” (Luke 1:46-47).

“My Savior?” Yes, Mary needed a Savior, just like all sinners, and she knew it.

Luke also reported an incident that, by itself, blows the lie of the ‘immaculate conception’ to smithereens:

And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. (Luke 2:22-24)

Purification? Mary needed purification? Why? Because she was a sinner and she needed to observe the Law of Moses. This required that she make a sacrifice for her sin – two turtledoves or young pigeons. The Book of Leviticus describes this as a “sin offering”.

Under Mosaic law, a mother was required to remain at home for forty days after the birth of a male child, during which time she was reckoned to be *impure*. This meant that she was not permitted to go to the Temple or to participate in religious services with the congregation. The ‘presentation in the Temple’ was in respect of the firstborn male child only, in obedience to the LORD’s decree that all such males be set aside (“called holy”) for His purpose. Historically this requirement was met in full by the dedication to the priesthood of the entire tribe of Levi, but all twelve tribes continued to present their firstborn males in the Temple as a witness to the priesthood of Israel as a whole (Exodus 13:2 and 22:29).

The attendance at the Temple by Mary and Joseph, accompanied by the infant Jesus, was a twofold act of obedience: (1) the purification of a woman after child-birth and (2) the presentation of the firstborn male child before the LORD:

And when the days of her purifying are fulfilled, for a son, or for a daughter, she shall bring a lamb of the first year for a burnt offering, and a young pigeon, or a turtledove, for a **sin offering**, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest: Who shall offer it before the LORD, and make an **atonement for her**; and she shall be cleansed from the issue of her blood. This is the law for her that hath born a male or a female. And if she be not able to bring a lamb, then she shall bring two turtles [turtledoves], or two young pigeons; the one for the burnt offering, and the other for a **sin offering**: and the priest shall make an **atonement for her**, and she shall be clean. (Leviticus 12:6-8)



Mary made a sin offering in order to be cleansed of her sin. Could anything be plainer? The sacrificial blood had to be sprinkled on the altar by the priest on her behalf. Thus Mary needed the same spiritual cleansing that all humanity needs through the shed blood of Christ.

13. The Bible condemns worship of the Queen of Heaven

Most Catholics are taken aback when they are told that the Word of God expressly forbids the worship or veneration of the Queen of Heaven. This prohibition may be found in many places in the Old Testament, but most notably in the Book of Jeremiah [Longer extracts may be found in **Appendix C**]:

The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. (Jeremiah 7:18)

But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem (Jeremiah 44:17)

So that the LORD could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings, and because of the abominations which ye have committed; therefore is your land a desolation, and an astonishment, and a curse, without an inhabitant, as at this day. (Jeremiah 44:22)

This expression, Queen of Heaven, is a generic term for the Goddess. Catholic theologians try to interpret it as a reference to a specific deity, as though it were lawful to venerate one kind of 'goddess' but not another. As a demonic entity the Queen of Heaven to which Jeremiah refers is still alive today, and just as active. Demons don't die. The fallen angels are carrying out their infernal work today with the same vigor and industry that they did in Old Testament times. Therefore the Goddess or Queen of Heaven is as much a threat today as she was when Jeremiah penned those words around 585 BC.

This is a matter of critical importance for Catholics. Even if they persist in their false belief that the Virgin Mary is genuinely appearing today to selected visionaries, they cannot be certain that the Queen of Heaven to whom Jeremiah refers is not the real face behind most of the Marian apparitions. There is not a single additional test that Rome can perform to distinguish between them. The Bible gives only one test, the test in 1 John 4 – which must be performed by the visionary herself at the time of the apparition. But this has never been done!

As stated in Jeremiah 44:22, veneration of the Queen of Heaven is a great evil in the eyes of God. So why are Catholics, who purport to love Jesus, so unwilling to obey His Holy Word? Why are they shamelessly placing their trust in something that, even by their own flawed standards, is very likely demonic?

14. She portrays Christ as both wrathful and unapproachable

Many of the Marian apparitions portray Christ as an austere and angry person who is impatient to vent his wrath on all mankind. According to Mary, she is the only one who can soften his anger and stay his arm. She claims to have great influence over him and to be able to obtain on behalf of her loyal devotees the grace and mercy that they might not receive if they prayed directly to him.

Contrast the picture that she paints of herself – the ever-merciful mediatrix – with her wrathful depiction of Christ:

If my people will not obey, I shall be compelled to loose my Son's arm. It is so heavy, so pressing that I can no longer restrain it...How long I have suffered for you! If my Son is not to cast you off, I am obliged to entreat Him without ceasing...This is what causes the weight of my Son's arm to be so crushing. (La Salette, 1846)

If they do not convert and do penance, my Son will be obliged to punish them. (Wisconsin, 1859)

I can stop my Son no longer...I cannot hold back my Son's arm any longer (Pellevoison, 1876)

No pain, no suffering is too great to me in order to save you. I will pray to my Son not to punish the world (Medjugorje, 1983)

Satan is the prince of liars, a consummate connoisseur in the art of deception. We should hardly be surprised that he uses devious tactics of this kind to trick the unwary and lure as many as he can from personal faith in Jesus.

15. She never condemns the appalling crimes of the Catholic Church

The Virgin of the apparitions refers often to the sins of the world, but she never refers to the sins of the very institution that she is using to promote herself. For example, the Roman Catholic Church has been guilty of the most appalling crimes against little children in recent decades (and possibly for centuries before that). The serial rape and sexual violation of thousands of children by her priests and religious orders is unimaginably vile. Furthermore, the Vatican has worked zealously for years to cover this up, to discredit the victims, to suppress evidence, and to exonerate itself in the most unscrupulous ways. But ‘Mary’ has no interest in this, nor indeed in any of the crimes and atrocities in which the Catholic Church has been implicated down the centuries. Reading her countless Marian messages, one would think the Inquisition had never happened, or that the Catholic priests and monks who took an active role in slaughtering over 700,000 innocent people in Croatia in 1941-45 – often torturing them in the most barbaric fashion for several hours before slitting their throats – were little worse than misguided altar boys. Given that a major apparition site – Medjugorje – is in Croatia, this omission is inexplicable.



A scene from the 4-year slaughter at Jasenovac concentration camp in Croatia, 1941-1945.

The ‘sins’ that really concern her are those numerous occasions when Catholics fail to say the Rosary, or wear the Marian Scapular or Miraculous Medal, or worship before her image at ‘holy shrines’. The greatest sin of all, it would seem, is to neglect her, to fail to recognize her glory and render to her the praise and adulation that she believes she deserves:

No matter how well you pray in future, no matter how well you act, you will never be able to make up to me what I have endured for your sake. (La Salette, 1846)

I am the Immaculate Conception. (Lourdes, 1858)

I am the Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners. (Wisconsin, 1859)

I am merciful and Mistress of My Son. (Pellevoison, 1876)

I choose the meek and mild for My glory. (Pellevoison, 1876)

I have especially come to save sinners. (Pellevoison, 1876)

These graces are from My Son; I take them out of His Heart. He can refuse me nothing. (Pellevoison, 1876)

Jesus wishes to use you to make me better known and loved. He wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. (Fatima, 1917)

Sacrifice yourselves for sinners and say often, especially when you make some sacrifice, 'O my Jesus, this is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.' (Fatima, 1917)

People must say the Rosary. Let them continue saying it every day. (Fatima, 1917)

Do you love me? Then sacrifice yourself for me. (Beauraing, 1932)

16. The real Mary had sexual relations with her husband

Catholics usually neglect the culture and times in which Mary and her husband Joseph lived. They were under the Mosaic Law and observed it in every detail. This included the duty to bear children.

The Bible refers many times to the outpouring of the blessings of God through the fruitfulness of childbearing. Consider, for example:

Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways...
Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. (Psalm 128:1-3)

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: (Psalm 127:3-5)

And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee. (Deuteronomy 28:11)

Childbearing was not just a blessing, but a spiritual duty. The command of Genesis was binding on Mary and Joseph: “Be fruitful, and multiply” (Genesis 1:28). It would have been a serious transgression of the Law for either Mary or Joseph to refrain from sexual union. When Onan failed to inseminate his brother’s childless widow in accordance with the Levirate law, the LORD struck him dead (Genesis 38:10).

It is therefore absurd to suggest, as does the Catholic Church, that Joseph and Mary had a celibate marriage or that they had no more children after Mary gave birth to Jesus. Indeed, the Word of God states that Mary and Joseph *did* have sexual relations and that Mary *did* bear other children:

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? (Luke 1:34)

Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not **till** she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS. (Matthew 1:24-25)

As can be seen from these verses, the verb “know” means “to have sexual relations with”. So Joseph did have sexual relations with Mary, but not until after the child Jesus was born.

The fruit of their conjugal union is mentioned in Mark 3 (and repeated in Luke 8):

There came then his brethren [brothers] and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren [brothers] without seek for thee. (Mark 3:31-32)

We are also given their names:

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. (Mark 6:3)

Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things? And they were offended in him. (Matthew 13:55-57)

But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. (Galatians 1:19)

The Greek word for ‘brother’ in the New Testament – ***adelphos*** – can also mean cousin, fellow countryman or close associate. However, when used in conjunction with ‘mother’ it normally denotes a sibling kinship. Greek also has a specific word for ‘cousin’ – ***anepsios*** – which cannot mean brother, *but this word was not used*. Also, it is significant that John distinguished between the mother and brothers of Jesus, on the one hand, and his disciples (brothers in Christ) on the other:

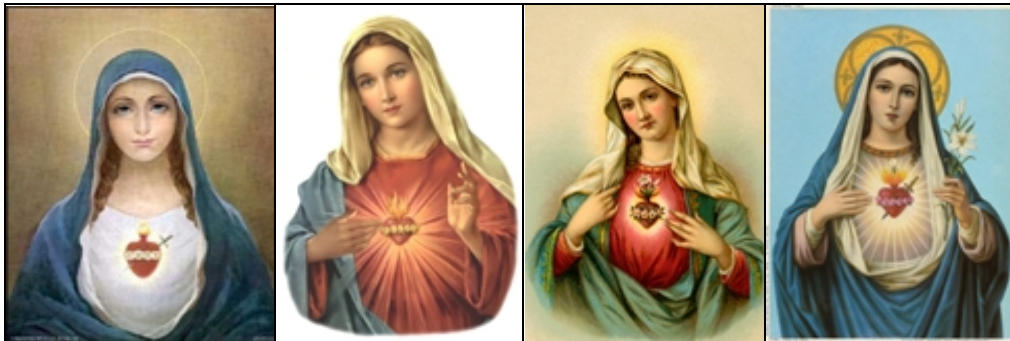
After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.
(John 2:12)

When, at the time of the Crucifixion, Jesus assigned Mary to the care of John, he probably did so because none of her other sons were born-again believers at the time: “For neither did his brethren believe in him.” (John 7:5)

Thus, while we cannot say definitively that Jesus had brothers and sisters, it is perfectly reasonable to assume that he did and that the New Testament references should be read in that light. In any event, it would be very surprising if Joseph and Mary, through their obedience to the LORD’s commandment in Genesis, did not have other children.

17. The apparitions continually emphasize the ‘Heart’

The Marian apparitions, especially those of Medjugorje, place an extraordinary emphasis on the ‘heart’. While this term is never defined by the Virgin it would appear to mean both the center of human emotions and, depending on the context, the ground of one’s being. The way it is used suggests that, while it may also be intuitive, it is never cognitive or grounded in thought of any kind.



The Virgin stresses the profound spiritual importance of her Immaculate Heart and of the need for all Catholics to submit to it in their prayers. As early as 1830 the Miraculous Medal was distributed widely amongst Catholics, especially children, in response to a demand by Mary that everyone acknowledge her sacred (immaculate) heart, which is depicted alongside that of Jesus on the reverse of the medal.

The same idea is repeated *ad nauseum* in the Medjugorje apparitions, where the word ‘heart’ has been used to date nearly 700 times (sometimes twice in the same sentence). It is also a recurring theme across the full spectrum of apparitions worldwide, usually in the context of devotion to Mary and submission to her in prayer.

The following quotes from Medjugorje illustrate just how prominent heart-love and heart-prayer are in the Marian campaign:

“I call you, dear children, to prayer with the heart.” (25 April, 1987)

“Pray and fast. I desire to live in your hearts.” (5 February, 1984)

“Pray and fast! I desire to be with you always. I desire to stay in your hearts always and for you to stay in mine.” (24 February, 1984)

“Pray, pray, pray until love and peace begin to reign in your hearts.
(25 March, 2013)

“Therefore, dear children, pray without ceasing and prepare your hearts in penance and fasting.” (4 December, 1986)

“Dear children! Today I call you to give me your heart so I can change it to be like mine.” (15 May, 1986)

“...I am inviting you to the consecration of my Immaculate Heart... press tightly against my motherly heart.” (25 October 1988)

Anyone with a knowledge of the New Age Movement, the Sufism of the Mevlevi Order, or the Bhakti Marg of Hindu Yoga, among others, will immediately recognize what the Virgin is actually teaching here. Her version of “prayer” is really that of the mystics and yogis, not the prayer of the Bible, while the fasting that she speaks about is that of the ascetic who weakens his body by austerities in order to induce an altered state of consciousness. Such fasting is not Biblical.

The mystics and yogis try to develop the discipline necessary to have an encounter with God through contemplative prayer, by opening their heart and entering into a state of existential emptiness. The Virgin makes a similar promise:

“I am with you and I wish to teach you to pray with the heart.
In prayer with the heart you shall encounter God. Therefore,
little children, pray, pray, pray!” (25 October 1989)

“Dear children!... Undefined by sin from now on, I wish to lead you further in love. Abandon your hearts to me!” (26 December, 1985)

“Dear children! Today I call you to prayer. I am with you and I love you all.
I am your Mother and I wish that your hearts be similar to my heart.
Little children, without prayer you cannot live and say that you are mine.
Prayer is joy. Prayer is what the human heart desires. Therefore, get closer,
little children, to my Immaculate Heart and you will discover God.
(25 November, 1994)

She is “with them” in the same mystical sense that a guru is with his disciples during meditation, observing their progress. The exhortation to “pray, pray, pray!” – which she makes again and again at Medjugorje – is akin to the guru’s insistence that the disciple develop the discipline that will enable him to sink deeper and deeper into contemplation and experience a mystical encounter with God.

This experiential activity, which the Virgin insists is necessary for her devotees, is beyond the mind, just as it is in mysticism and yoga. As she says, words are not necessary for those who are truly devoted to her Immaculate Heart:

“If you shall bear and live the messages in your heart, everyone will feel it so that words, which serve those who do not obey, will not be necessary. (19 September, 1985)

“Dear children! This is a time of great graces, but also a time of great trials for all those who desire to follow the way of peace. Because of that, little children, again I call you to pray, pray, pray, not with words but with the heart. Live my messages and be converted.” (25 December, 2002)

Frankly, this is spiritual poison. These mind-emptying, heart-opening techniques are contrary to everything that the Bible teaches. The emotional style of prayer that the Virgin demands, accompanied by bodily austerities, has long been known to dispose the practitioner to harmful supernatural influences. When mixed with a strong desire to have a supernatural experience, long periods of repetitive prayer – where words are little more than a mesmerizing drone – can cause one to enter an altered state of consciousness. This effectively shuts off the discriminating – and protective – power of one’s mind and allows a demonic entity to project emotional images and false ideas into one’s consciousness.

Satan wants to get as many people as he can to open themselves to the highly sophisticated supernatural apparatus that he employs to control mankind. The Marian apparitions are a major extension of this plan. They are a very seductive way of luring the unwary down a rose-strewn path to their ultimate destruction.

While the Virgin describes one’s heart as the great avenue to spiritual illumination, the Bible says the very opposite! “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9)

Christ warned that everything that is evil within man, everything that defiles him, comes from within him – from his heart!

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the **heart**; and they defile the man. For out of the **heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man:
(Matthew 15:18-20)

Christ teaches that we are to trust only in him and in his holy Word, never in our own heart. Satan, on the other hand – through his Marian apparitions – is teaching men to trust in the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to communicate with her through their own heart.

Who will you listen to, Christ or Satan?

18. The Bible warns of a Woman in the great End Time deception

Christ warned of the great deception that would prevail throughout professing Christianity in the last days of this age. Satan will advance his cause in grand style using “all power and signs and lying wonders” (2 Thessalonians 2:9). Christ said that the deception would be so great that, were it possible, it would deceive even the elect (Matthew 24:24). It is imperative therefore that all who profess to be Christian exercise the greatest discrimination in relation to all expressions of supernatural power, signs from heaven, and miraculous manifestations. Satan has real supernatural power and is capable of using it to jaw-dropping effect. It is at its most dangerous when men and women unwittingly invite him into their lives, believing the signs they are seeing are ordained by God. Catholics who indulge in the Marian cult are leaving themselves wide open to this kind of deception. And they do themselves even greater harm when they practise the non-Biblical prayer techniques that the Virgin enjoins upon all her devotees.



There are several passages in the Bible which indicate that the End Time deception will include an exceptionally evil woman who is capable of exercising her influence over the entire world. It would take too long to deal exegetically with these passages, so we must confine ourselves to just a few observations relating to them.

In his excellent book, *A Woman Rides the Beast*, Dave Hunt stated:

The most prominent figure by far in Roman Catholicism is a **woman**. She overshadows all else, including even God Himself. More prayers are offered to the Catholic Mary and more attention and honor is given to her than to Christ and God combined. There are thousands of shrines to Mary around the world (and hundreds of shrines to other “saints”), but scarcely more than a handful of minor shrines to Christ Himself...In Catholicism it is a **woman** through whom all graces, gifts, blessings, and power flow – a **woman**, who...has the amazing potential to unite the entire world, including even the Muslims, in one religion. (Chapter 27)

The Bible teaches that a geographical area can have a powerful demon assigned to it by Satan, rather like a divisional commander (see Daniel 10). These demons are worshipped as deities, known collectively as “the host of heaven”. Most project a male persona, but some use a female one. The great End Time city of the Book of Revelation – “mystery, Babylon” – is controlled by a powerful demon that uses a female persona:

How much **she** hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give **her**: for she saith in **her heart**, I sit a **queen, and am no widow**, and shall see no sorrow...for by **thy sorceries** were all nations deceived.

(Revelation 18:7 & 23)

The ultimate defeat of this powerful demon is foretold, not only in Revelation, but also in Isaiah:

- [1] Come down, and sit in the dust, **O virgin daughter of Babylon**, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate...
- [5] Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for **thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms...**
- [7] And thou saidst, **I shall be a lady for ever**: so that thou didst not lay these things to **thy heart**, neither didst remember the latter end of it.
- [8] Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, **that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children**:
- [9] But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood: they shall come upon thee in their perfection for **the multitude of thy sorceries**, and for **the great abundance of thine enchantments**.
- [10] For thou hast trusted in thy **wickedness**: thou hast said, **None seeth me**. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and **thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me**.

This demon claims to be the highest god of all – “I am, and none else beside me”. The words “I am” are a recognized profession of divinity in Biblical terminology. She wants to be like the Most High, which is the very ambition that Satan proclaimed in an earlier chapter of Isaiah: “I will be like the Most High” (Isaiah 14:14) Thus this woman, this virgin daughter, this lady of kingdoms, the queen who aims to reign forever through wickedness and the covert use (“none seeth me”) of enchantments and sorceries, is none other than Satan himself.

Note that the Word of God even alerts us to one of her favorite titles – “The lady of kingdoms”. Compare this with the title claimed by the Virgin in her apparitions to Ida Peerdeman – The Lady of All Nations.

This would seem to be the same woman to whom the angel points in Zechariah 5 and says, “This is wickedness.” And she too is connected with Babylon, “the land of Shinar”.

Men cannot worship the one true God and at the same time respect or venerate another:

...and I will cut off...them that worship and that swear by the LORD,
and that swear by Malcham [*Moloch, a pagan deity*] (Zephaniah 1:4-5)

The LORD in His righteousness will not pardon any who do this, who try to mix worship of Him with respect or veneration for another supernatural being:

For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: (Exodus 34:14)

How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: (Jeremiah 5:7)

All professing Christians who worship, venerate, esteem, or respect – call it what you will – another supernatural or transcendental entity are risking eternal condemnation.

Can this really be what they want? Elijah put this very question to the people of Ephraim:

And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. (1 Kings 18:21)

The Essence of Catholicism

The Roman Catholic Church has long been preparing the ground for the ultimate deification of Mary. We have seen how its strategy has stretched all the way back to the First Council of Ephesus in 431 AD. This in turn was influenced by various so-called ‘Church Fathers’ – the early theologians – some of whom had incorporated the veneration of Mary into their respective theologies. The number of heresies in the early church was so great that several formal Councils had to be called to weed them out. Alas, many serious heresies still survived.

Sincere Catholics have been led to believe that the ‘church’ was ‘Catholic’ from the time of the Apostles and only became ‘Protestant’ at the time of the Reformation. The historical reality is very different. Paul, John and Jude all warned that even in their time, just a few decades after Pentecost, the teaching of true Biblical Christianity had been extensively infiltrated by false teachers:

For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. (Acts 20:29)

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. (1 John 2:18)

For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:4)

Many of Paul's Epistles were directed in the main at correcting false doctrine and purging the church of dangerous heretical beliefs and practices which even then were taking hold. Among these was the worship of Diana, which was endemic in the region, especially in Ephesus where a massive temple had been built in her honor.

A great many false teachers have had an intense devotion to the Goddess and have sought by various means to infect others with their pernicious enthusiasm. Most of the so-called Doctors of the Roman Catholic Church – including Jerome, Bonaventure, Bernard of Clairvaux, Thomas Aquinas, Alphonsus Liguori, John of the Cross, Robert Bellarmine, Teresa of Avila, Thérèse of Lisieux, and Peter Canisius – were ardent champions of the Virgin and proclaimed her transcendent, semi-divine role as Mediatrix and Advocate.

Among other highly influential Catholic authors with an intense devotion to Mary were Louis de Montfort, John Henry Newman, Maximilian Kolbe, Fulton Sheen, and the Trappist monk, Thomas Merton. The list goes on and on. Pope John Paul II, by far the most Ecumenical Pontiff in history, even had the words “*Totus Tuus*” (from *totus tuus ego sum...Maria – I belong entirely to you, O Mary*) embroidered on all his vestments.

The Church of Rome is in essence the Church of Mary. It is in the process of turning the Holy Trinity into a Holy Quaternity and proclaiming a gospel that is even more unbiblical, more heretical, and more harmful than the one it already teaches.

If the Bible doesn't say it, then change the Bible

Vatican theologians have worked overtime for centuries to devise interpretations of Scripture that accord with their Marian theology. One of the most outrageous is a ‘translation’ of Genesis 3:15 which, in their version (Douay-Rheims), reads:

“I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: **she** shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for **her** heel.”

Compare this with 12 other major translations:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; **it** shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise **his** heel. (KJV)

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; **he** shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise **his** heel. (ESV)

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; **He** shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise **him** on the heel. (NASB)

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; **he** shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise **his** heel. (RSV)

and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: **he** shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise **his** heel. (ASV)

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; **he** will crush your head, and you will strike **his** heel. (NIV)

and enmity I put between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; **he** doth bruise thee – the head, and thou dost bruise **him** – the heel. (Young's Literal Translation)

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. **He** will bruise your head, and you will bruise **his** heel." (World English Bible)

I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. **He** will strike your head, and you will strike **his** heel. (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; **he** shall crush thy head, and thou shalt crush **his** heel. (Darby's Translation)

I wil also put enimitie betweene thee and the woman, and betweene thy seede & her seede. **He** shall breake thine head, and thou shalt bruise **his** heele. (Geneva Bible)

I wyll also put enmitie betweene thee & the woman, betweene thy seede and her seede: and **it** shall treade downe thy head, and thou shalt treade vpon **his** heele. (Bishops Bible)

Genesis 3:15 contains both a prophecy and a promise of monumental importance. It is sometimes referred to as the **Protevangelium**, or gospel of salvation in its earliest formulation, because it foretells the defeat of Satan by the Messiah. The problem with the Roman Catholic version is that it credits Mary with this victory, not Christ. None of the other translations make this egregious error.

The LXX or *Septuagint* was a major translation of the Old Testament into Greek by a team of top Jewish scholars based in Alexandria in the 2nd century before Christ. Since it preceded the birth of Jesus, and was made by respected Jewish scholars skilled in both Hebrew and Greek, its credentials are considered impeccable.

“He” in the original Hebrew is masculine. It can also mean “it.” In the LXX it was rendered *autos*, “he,” indicating that the passage should be understood as a Messianic prophecy about Jesus Christ alone crushing the head of the serpent.

However, Jerome (342-430 AD) in his Latin *Vulgate* translation made a major error, changing “it” or “he” into “she” by using the feminine pronoun *ipsa* in the Latin. Roman Catholic scholars who accepted the Latin Vulgate then translated Genesis 3:15 in their Douay-Rheims Bible as:

*“I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: **she** shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for **her** heel.”*

And who is “she” for the Roman Catholics? Mary, of course, the “second Eve”. Just as the first Eve was deceived by the serpent and in consequence brought sin and corruption into the world, the second Eve, they claim, will bring salvation by crushing the head of the serpent.

Through his Marian apparitions, the Enemy has long striven to convince Catholics that this is indeed the correct translation, where the woman crushes the head of the serpent. This is why the “Miraculous Medal” apparition of 1830 is so significant. In it the Virgin asked Catherine Labouré to have a special medal made in honor of the Immaculate Conception and even specified its design. Labouré was even shown an image of the Virgin standing on the serpent:

On November 27, 1830, which fell upon a Saturday before the first Sunday of Advent, at five-thirty in the evening, in the deep silence after the point of the meditation had been read, that is several minutes after the point of meditation, I heard a sound like the rustling of a silk dress from the tribune near the picture of St. Joseph. Turning in that direction I saw the Blessed Virgin at the level of St. Joseph's picture. The Virgin was standing. She was of medium height, and clothed all in white. Her dress was of the whiteness of the dawn made in the style called, a la Vierge, that is, high neck and plain sleeves. A white veil covered her head and fell on either side to her feet. Under the veil her hair, in coils, was bound with a fillet ornamented with lace, about three centimeters in height or of two finger's breadth, without pleats and resting lightly on the hair. Her face was sufficiently exposed, instead exposed very well, and so beautiful that it seems to me impossible to express Her ravishing beauty.

Her feet rested on a white globe, that is to say half a globe, or at least I saw only half. **There was also a serpent, green in color with yellow spots.**

— from her written account by Catherine Labouré



The twelve stars on the medal should also be noted (see p.17). This is an obvious allusion to the twelve stars mentioned in the Book of Revelation. Clearly the Enemy wants the Virgin to be identified with the “woman clothed with the sun” in Revelation 12:1:

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. (Revelation 12:1-6)

However, the Book of Revelation is filled with references to the Old Testament, and this is one of them. It refers to a dream that Joseph, the son of Jacob, related to his family in Genesis:

And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. (Genesis 37:9)

The eleven stars, plus Joseph himself (the twelfth star), are the patriarchs of the 12 tribes of Israel, while the sun and the moon are his two parents, Jacob and Rachel (by then deceased). His father and brothers immediately recognized that Joseph expected them to bow down before him at some future date and took umbrage:

“And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? (Genesis 37:10)

The Book of Revelation, in the passage quoted, is referring, not to a person but to Israel herself in all her prophetic glory, the redeemed wife of the LORD, as described in the Book of Hosea. She is clothed with the righteousness of the Messiah, the Sun, and standing upon the great sphere of the earth, which reflects her glory like the moon reflects the sun. Israel herself brought forth the Messiah, whom Satan, the “great red dragon” had sought to destroy. She will flee into the “wilderness” during the 1,260 days of the Great Tribulation, sheltered throughout by the protective arm of the LORD.

No reasonable exegesis of the Book of Revelation could conclude that the “woman” is the Virgin Mary. She will not be on earth during the Tribulation, which is yet to come, and she will not be pursued by Satan into the wilderness. But Israel will!

The Church of Rome teaches Replacement Theology, the false doctrine that the Catholic Church has replaced Israel in God’s redemptive plan and that Israel, as a nation, has no future role in Biblical prophecy. But countless passages in the Bible say otherwise.

Through the Labouré apparitions, Satan is twisting Scripture to suit his purpose. The Miraculous Medal is a masterpiece of deception. Every detail is carefully chosen – the way the ‘M’ (for Mary) supports the Cross, the “pierced” heart of Mary (comparable in suffering and glory to that of Christ), and the prayer, “O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.”

In the End Time Tribulation, which the Book of Revelation describes, Israel will be subjected to an overwhelming and extremely brutal attack by the armies of the Antichrist. The book of Daniel tells us that this Satan-empowered figure will arise from a revived Roman Empire. This pan-European entity is already in formation, where the nations that comprise the European Union are being welded into a monolithic political federation. We should hardly be surprised, therefore, that the official flag of the European Union brazenly displays the 12 Marian stars!



**The official flag of the European Union
- venerating the Goddess!**

Conclusion

Why are Catholics so blind to what is happening to them? Why do they fail to exercise any discernment?

These questions troubled me for many years. Like all born-again Bible-believing Christians, I have been greatly concerned that anyone should be taught a false gospel. There are over a thousand million Catholics in the world today – many of whom are very fine individuals indeed, whom I could hardly expect to emulate in selflessness and charity – but if they are wedded to a false gospel, they are lost.

As Christ plainly stated, “Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.” (John 3:7).

This means that we must accept Christ as our ONLY mediator, our ONLY advocate, and our ONLY redeemer. If a professing Christian denies the complete sufficiency of the salvation that Christ freely offers and tries to improve upon it in ANY way – whether by good works, sacraments, or whatever – then he has actually rejected the gift.

Just as all are condemned utterly by the sin of the first Adam, all are redeemed in full by the perfect work of the second Adam, Jesus of Nazareth (1 Corinthians 15:45). But they must believe in him and what he did – and did perfectly – on their behalf. If they believe that he performed only part of the work of salvation and that further work has yet to be done, then they have not believed. They are still relying on their own strength, their own merits and their own righteousness to finish what they think Christ left undone. They still believe that they can do what only God can do. And if you believe that you (or anyone else) can do what God alone can do, then you are still in your fallen, pride-filled, rebellious state. You are still lost. You have not found Christ, the REAL Christ, and are destined to live forever in eternity without him.

Four reasons why Catholics believe the Marian deception

There would seem to be four main reasons why Catholics are falling for the Marian deception:

1. Catholics are sinfully ignorant of the Word of God. They don't read the Bible, they don't discuss it, and they don't understand it. They forget the terrible rebuke that Christ addressed to the Devil in the wilderness: “It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4) Note what our Savior is saying – **“every word”**. Alas, Catholics are familiar with only a few words here and there, and even in those instances they often interpret them in a manner contrary to the totality of God's Word. The words that really matter to them are the words of Rome, not God.

**“They that observe lying vanities forsake
their own mercy.” (Jonah 2:8)**

2. Catholics have forgotten just how devious and deceitful Satan really is, how much power he wields as the “the prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2), and how long he has plotted and schemed to make the whole world bow down before him. The fallen angels can give ecstatic experiences to anyone foolish enough to seek them. Satan can produce all kinds of paranormal phenomena, even making a multitude of people believe the sun is dancing in the sky, just as he did at Fatima. His supernatural “signs” are often very impressive. Alas, anyone who bases his relationship with God, and his understanding of the gospel, on signs and wonders is easy prey for Satan.

**“Shall horses run upon the rock? will one plow there with oxen?
for ye have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit
of righteousness into hemlock” (Amos 6:12)**

3. Catholics have virtually no understanding of the importance to Satan of the coming One-World religion. Thus, they fail to see how the Marian apparitions contribute to his overall strategy. Their ignorance of God’s prophetic warnings will have devastating consequences:

**“...because thou hast rejected knowledge,
I will also reject thee” (Hosea 4:6)**

4. Catholics are completely deceived by the false doctrine known as the ‘Treasury of the Church’ which lies at the heart of Roman theology. This teaches that all sins must be washed away over a process of time by an unspecified amount of ‘sanctifying’ grace. This in turn is dispensed through the sacraments by the Catholic clergy, who alone have the power and authority to perform this redemptive function.

This action is akin to drawing a cup of grace from a great reservoir of grace (“the treasury”) and dispensing it to the suppliant. Since baptism only gets rid of original sin (“Baptism, by imparting the life of Christ's grace, erases original sin and turns a man back towards God” – Catholic Catechism, paragraph 405) a person must depend throughout his life on the redemptive power of the priest to dispense sufficient grace from the treasury to erase all of his remaining sins.

According to the Catholic Catechism (paragraphs 1471-1478), the reservoir or treasury is filled from three sources: (a) the satisfactions and merits of Christ; (b) the prayers and good works of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which are “pristine”, “unfathomable” and “truly immense”; and (c) the prayers and good works of all the saints. The latter comprise only those individuals who in the course of their lives accumulated enough merit to earn their own salvation and still leave a surplus to be added to the treasury.

No Catholic knows whether he is saved – not even the Pope – since the amount of grace that one needs from the treasury can never be determined. If, at the moment of death, a person does not possess sufficient sanctifying grace to completely cleanse him of all sin, then he must spend an unspecified period of time in the fires of Purgatory so that any sin still remaining can be “purged” or burnt off.

This teaching, “The Treasury of the Church”, is an appalling blasphemy. It equates the redemptive sacrifice of Christ on Calvary with the prayers and good works of Mary and the ‘saints’. It turns fallen sinners into a source of redemption! A more grotesque perversion of what Christ has achieved for mankind is impossible to conceive:

**“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?”
(Hebrews 2:3)**

The Roman Catholic Church of Mary

The Church of Rome is the Church of Mary. For Rome, the Holy Trinity is becoming the Holy Quaternity. It teaches a false Christ, a savior who failed to save anyone, a lamb who has to be sacrificed a thousand times a day, a god so puny that he exists in a piece of bread, a little baby god who has to be carried around the world by his mother, a god so weak and deficient that he needs a woman to complete the work of salvation for him.

That is NOT Christ! That is a sickly counterfeit, a debased and blasphemous effigy conjured up by Rome and her grievous wolves. If that is the ‘Christ’ you worship, then you do not know Christ!

In His unfathomable mercy our heavenly Father gave His only begotten Son to redeem us. If you believe that Christ did not do enough to secure your salvation, and that a goddess or a quasi-deified human must supplement what he has done, then a terrible darkness awaits you in eternity.

**Jeremy James
Ireland
2 September, 2013**

For further information, visit www.zephaniah.eu

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APPENDIX A

Proof that the Knock apparition of 1879 was a hoax

1. Whenever visionaries are observed by a third party during an apparition, they are usually in a trance of some kind. None of the Knock visionaries were in a trance.
2. Marian apparitions generally involve only women and children. While there have been a few historical exceptions, men are very seldom selected (only one, it would seem, in over 400 years of Vatican-approved apparitions). The alleged apparition at Knock was seen by four adult males.
3. Historically Marian apparitions have not occurred before groups larger than six, and these have involved children only. No Vatican-approved apparition has been witnessed by more than one adult at a time, and yet eleven adults observed the image on the church gable at Knock!
4. Marian visionaries are invariably captivated by what they see and they experience great delight in witnessing the apparition. None would dare walk away after 15 minutes! -
 - “I continued looking on for fully an hour, and then I went away...”
 - “I remained looking on for fully fifteen or twenty minutes; then I left and returned to my own house.”
 - “I remained only ten minutes, and then I went away.”
 - “I remained now for the space of at least a quarter of an hour, perhaps longer.”
5. The testimonies of the 15 or so witnesses are entirely lacking in conviction and bear no resemblance, in even a single instance, to the impassioned and awestruck reports given by other Marian visionaries.
6. Marian apparitions invariably comprise a dynamic image, not a static one. Even when the Virgin does not speak, she is clearly a living entity. (“There was no movement or active sign of life about the figures.”)
7. The Knock apparition included two saints, Joseph (presumably the husband of Mary) and John (presumably the Evangelist). The Virgin has never appeared with saints in any officially approved apparition.
8. The saints appearing in the apparition were disproportionately small relative to the Virgin.

9. The image was not free-standing but appeared on a church gable. It was two-dimensional, while genuine apparitions are always in three dimensions.
10. The apparition continued for a very long time, over two hours according to some witnesses. This is in marked contrast to other approved apparitions which persisted for much shorter periods, sometimes only a few minutes.
11. A number of the visionaries said the figures in the apparition were very similar to the statues in their local church. (Please note!)
12. The local Catholic priest, Archdeacon Cavanagh, was told by one witness, Mary McLoughlin, that an apparition of Mary was appearing at that moment on the gable of the church but he expressed no interest and did not go to investigate. Neither did he express regret the following day that he had not done so.

From the time of their introduction magic lanterns have caused great excitement, and sometimes fear, among audiences who were seeing a projected image for the first time. Many technical improvements to their operation were made during the 19th century. The audience impact would have been considerably greater if the equipment was concealed and the image projected covertly. In such circumstances even a static image projected onto a wet gable would have made a powerful impression on a simple rural community in the west of Ireland in 1879.

Conclusion: The evidence clearly shows that the apparition was a hoax. It would have been fairly easy to perpetrate under the conditions prevailing in Knock at the time. A poorly educated and economically deprived agricultural community in the west of Ireland, having little familiarity with science or technology, a slavish devotion to Mary, and a marked fondness for superstitious fables, was easy prey for a trick of this nature. The fact that the Vatican did not approve the apparition for nearly a hundred years is further proof that no one of standing attached any credibility to the reports, either at the time of the incident or for decades thereafter.

While the Knock deception teaches many hard truths, it proves unequivocally that the doctrine of Papal infallibility must be false.

**Representative extracts from the messages
received from the ‘Virgin Mary’ by Ida Peerdeman**

I see the Lady standing on the globe. She points at the globe and says to me, My child, I am standing on this globe, because I want to be called The Lady of All Nations. The words ‘of All Nations’ arrange themselves round her in a semicircle. [16 November 1950]

Have this picture of me painted and, together with it, spread the prayer I have taught you. This is my wish for today. And I want this to be done in many languages...once more I insist that this must be done. It is of great importance...I am standing upon the globe because this message concerns the whole world. [4 March 1951]

Listen carefully to the explanation I am about to give, and try to grasp the contents of this message. I stand before the Cross with my head, hands and feet as those of a human being. The rest is of the Spirit. Why do I stand like this? My body has been taken up like the Son was. Now I stand an oblation before the Cross. For I have suffered with my Son, spiritually and above all bodily. This will become a much contested dogma...My child pass it on and say, ‘This brings the Marian dogmas to a conclusion.’...My child, just as He suffered, so did I suffer as the Mother of the Son of Man. Repeat this correctly. [1 April 1951]

Now I see the Lady remove the cloth from her waist. It is a very long cloth, and she lets me see how she wraps it around herself...This [the sash or girdle around her waist] is as the loin-cloth of the Son. For I stand as the Lady before the Cross of the Son...This picture will precede a dogma, a new dogma. Now I will explain it to you, so listen carefully...the Lady comes to stand in front of it [i.e. the picture], as the Son's Mother, who with Him has accomplished this work of redemption. The Lady, however, really stands here as the Co-Redemptrix and Advocate. About this much controversy will arise. [15 April 1951]

Repeat this after me: The new dogma will be the dogma of the Co-Redemptrix...For the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit wills to send the Lady, chosen to bear the Redeemer into this world, as Co-Redemptrix and Advocate. [29 April 1951]

Look closely. I am standing before the Cross of the Redeemer. My head, my hands and my feet are those of a human being, as those of the Son of Man. The rest belongs to the Spirit. My feet are firmly planted on the globe, for it is the wish of the Father and the Son to send me into the world in these times as Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix and Advocate. This will constitute a new and last Marian dogma. This picture will go before it. This dogma will be much disputed; and yet it will prevail! **[31 May 1951]**

I have told you: This time is Our time. This means that the Father and the Son wants in these times to send the Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix and Advocate throughout the whole world. Now look hard at my hands. From them emanate Grace, Redemption and Peace. The rays shine upon all peoples. **[2 July 1951]**

I have crushed the snake with my foot. I have become united with my Son, as I had always been united with Him. This is the dogma that has gone before in the history of the Church. As Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix and Advocate I stand here, now in this time, in Our time. The dogma of the Assumption had to precede it. The last and greatest dogma will follow...Mankind has been entrusted to the Mother. **[15 August 1951]**

I come as the Co-Redemptrix-Mediatrix at this time. Co-Redemptrix I already was at the Annuciation. This means that the Mother became Co-Redemptrix by the Will of the Father. Tell your theologians this. Tell them, moreover, that this will be the last dogma in Marian history. **[15 November 1951]**

How is it that this new title – the Lady of All Nations – only now enters the world? It is because the Lord reserved it for this time. The other dogmas had to come first, just as Her life on earth had to precede the Lady of All Nations. All previous dogmas comprised the mortal life and the leaving of this life by the Lady. For the theologians this simple explanation should suffice. It was necessary to give this explanation once more. **[5 October 1952]**

Because the Lady is Co-Redemptrix, she is also Mediatrix and Advocate, not only because she is the Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ, but – and mark this well – because she is the Immaculate Conception... Do fight and ask *[the Pope]* for this dogma: it is the crowning of Your Lady. **[4 April 1954]**

Work and ask for this dogma. You should petition the Holy Father *[the Pope]* for this dogma. When the dogma, the last dogma in Marian history, has been proclaimed, the Lady of All Nations will give peace, true peace to the world. **[31 May 1954]**

**Scriptural passages condemning worship or veneration
of the Queen of Heaven**

Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. Do they provoke me to anger? saith the LORD: do they not provoke themselves to the confusion of their own faces? Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched. (Jeremiah 7:17-20)

As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee. But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil. But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine. And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men? Then Jeremiah said unto all the people, to the men, and to the women, and to all the people which had given him that answer, saying, The incense that ye burned in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, ye, and your fathers, your kings, and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and came it not into his mind? So that the LORD could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings, and because of the abominations which ye have committed; therefore is your land a desolation, and an astonishment, and a curse, without an inhabitant, as at this day. Because ye have burned incense, and because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil is happened unto you, as at this day. Moreover Jeremiah said unto all the people, and to all the women, Hear the word of the LORD, all Judah that are in the land of Egypt: Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying; Ye and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her: ye will surely accomplish your vows, and surely perform your vows. (Jeremiah 44:16-25)

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